# The New-York Times.

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## IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

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OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 30.

WHEN MASON AND SLIDELL WILL GO TO EUROPE.

Lord LYONS was in conference to-day with Secretary SEWARD relative to the time and manner of the release of SLIDELL and MASON. They will not be released for some days, as there is no British vessel likely to leave for some time. They will probably go in the British mail steamer which leaves on next Wednesday a week. It was proposed that they should go out on a British man-of-war, but our Government decided on a less ostentatious mode.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

The Senate did nothing but meet and adjourn to-day. In the House, no business of consequence was undertaken. THAD. STEVENS sustained the action of the Government in the *Trent* affair, which surprised those who looked for an attack on the Administration in that matter.

THE SCHEME FOR A NATIONAL CURRENCY.

The Sub Committee of Ways and Means are still considering the scheme of a National currency, and to-day have adopted and agreed to report the following aditional section, which is important in view of the suspension of the banks in the Northern cities.

SECTION 79. That for temporary purposes, and until the circulating notes authorized by this act shall be issued and put into circulation by corporations and associations to the aggregate amount of one hundred millions of dollars, the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized to issue fifty millions of dollars of Treasury Notes on the faith of the United States, payable on demand, without specifying any place of payment, and of such denominations as he may deem expedient, not less than five dollars each, which shall be receivable for all debts and demands due to the United States and for all salaries, dues, debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations and associations within the United States; and such Treasury notes shall also be a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, within the United States, and shall be exchangeable at any time at their par value, the same as coin, at the Treasury of the United States, and at the offices of Assistant Treasurers in New-York, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Cincinnati, for any of the coupon or registered bonds which the Secretary of the Treasury is now or may hereafter be authorized to issue; and such Treasury notes may be reissued from time to time, as the exigencies of the public service may require. And all the provisions of the act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes," approved the 23d day of December, 1857, so far as the same can be applied to the provisions of this section, and not inconsistent therewith, are hereby revived and reënacted. [The details and practical operation of this bill will be found set forth in our Washington letter, published below.—ED. TIMES.]

THE PROVISIONS OF THE TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

Mr. MORRILL, who reported the recent Tariff Bill, informed the Ways and Means Committee, at their meeting this morning, that he did not intend to include the goods in the bonded warehouses at the time of the passage of the act. There is a difference of opinion among the Committee as to the true construction of the act. The Secretary of the Treasury, however, having given his construction as to its meaning, the Committee will not interfere with it.

THE IRON-CLAD STEAM BATTERIES.

The Navy Department is sending out specifications inviting proposals from ship-builders throughout the country, for the construction of iron-clad steam batteries. The bill, which has already passed one House, providing for such vessels, will be taken up immediately on the re-assembling of Congress, and put upon its passage. The Government is very anxious that this class of war vessels should be immediately constructed.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Joint Committee to inquire into the conduct of the war were in session again to-day. They had before them Gen. SMITH. They failed, however, to elicit any points, as each and all of the officers positively refuse to give any information, without first consulting Gen. MCCLELLAN.

MR. STEVENS' BILL ABOLISHING CERTAIN PORTS OF ENTRY.

The following is the bill introduced in the House to-day by Mr. STEVENS, on leave:

*First.*—That all laws or parts of laws creating and establishing ports of entry or delivery in any State now in rebellion be, and the same are hereby repealed.

*Second.*—Hereafter no vessel, either foreign or domestic, except such as belong to or are employed by the Government of the United States, shall enter or leave any of said ports, unless driven there by stress of weather.

*Third.*—If any vessel shall violate, or attempt to violate the provisions of this act, the said vessel, cargo and everything appertaining thereto, shall be forfeited, the one half to go to the captors and the other half to the United States; and every person is hereby authorized to make such seizure, and the captain or commander of said vessel shall be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars.

*Fourth.*—The said vessel and cargo may be seized at any place at sea or in any port, and the goods may be taken wherever found, either on land or water.

*Fifth.*—The proceeds shall be divided among the captors according to the law now regulating prizes.

*Sixth.*—The ship and cargo may be tried, as well as the officers, in any Court of the United States into whose jurisdiction the same may be taken.

*Seventh.*—The States now in rebellion are Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas. If any other States should hereafter become rebellious, the President shall proclaim the fact, and the provisions of this act shall then apply to such State or States.

*Eighth.*—The President shall have power to declare any harbor or harbors ports of entry, when in his judgment it shall be expedient.

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

In reply to the resolution of the House of Representatives, requesting the Secretary of War to furnish all general orders issued in reference to the transportation of troops and munitions of war by railroad, and also all orders designating the amount to be paid for such purpose, the Secretary submits a report from Quartermaster General MEIGS, in which it is stated that the Quartermaster-General has issued no general orders on the subject.

Accompanying the report is a letter from the War Department, dated July 12th, 1861, establishing a tariff of prices for the transportation of troops and stores, and directions to all quartermasters and others engaged in providing transportation, to send the troops and stores by the shortest and most direct route.

The following is a general basis of prices: Passenger per mile two cents, and for moving equipments—munitions and supplies accompanying regiments, local rates, which will average about as follows: Thirty miles or less, 10 cents per pound—there being a corresponding reduction for greater distances—so that for three hundred and fifty or four hundred miles the amount would not exceed 90 cents per 100 pounds. As to the transportation of horses by full car-loads, thirteen or fourteen horses are usually charged as 18,000 pounds. All other supplies forwarded by freight trains are charged local rates, according to classification of property, which will usually average, on provisions and heavy freight, two or three cents on a ton of 2,000 pounds. Dry goods, clothing or light goods will average three to five cents per ton of 2,000 pounds per mile.

GEN. SHERMAN AND THE SLAVES.

Gen. SHERMAN, writing from Port Royal to a Senator, says that if he had issued a proclamation immediately on landing in South Carolina, offering protection to all slaves that should enter his lines, he might have had 10,000 about him by this time. But he expresses a conviction that the course he pursued was best: that the time has not yet come for such a proclamation to have its full effect, and will not come perhaps for two or three months yet.

REBEL SOLDIERS RETURNING SOUTHWARD.

Government has advices that large numbers of South Carolina and Georgia troops have lately been transferred from the rebel army of the Potomac to their own States. The whole number of South Carolina troops in Virginia has never exceeded thirteen thousand, and of these about nine thousand have returned to the Palmetto State since the advent of Gen. SHERMAN at Port Royal. The operations of our troops on the Carolina coast, and the operations of Old Boreas in Virginia, are acting powerfully on their spirits and on their constitutions. In fact, they were so demoralized in Virginia that it was impossible to hold them together. Besides, the time of a large number of those who enlisted in South Carolina a year ago as one-year State troops is now about expiring, and they positively refused to fight any longer for the detested Virginians. Of those who have gone back, four regiments and two batteries were from Charleston, two regiments from Columbia, about twenty lower parish companies, and some from the up-country. Of the up-countrymen, however, a good number yet remain in Virginia; they endure the cold better, and their homes are in no immediate danger of Yankee invasion. Nearly all those who have returned southward are now stationed in the immediate vicinity of Charleston. The small and great bodies of rebel troops whom our soldiers often get scent of in their reconnoitering expeditions are the militia companies of the low country, who have never yet been out of their own State.

Among the high rebel officers who have lately gone back to South Carolina, are Brig.-Gen. MAXCY GREGG, from Columbia, and Confederate "General" EVANS. GREGG has always been considered one of the chief "game cocks" and aristocratic bullies of South Carolina, and EVANS is one of the most solid-headed soldiers. Beside these and the inferior officers attached to the returned regiments, a large number of Carolina officers serving in the regiments from other States have procured their transfer to their native soil. South Carolina has furnished more officers to the rebel army than any other two States of the so-called Southern Confederacy. She has had three State Military Academies in operation for many years, manufacturing trained officers for this emergency.

The South Carolina soldiers on the Potomac were the best drilled, best equipped, best officered, and not the least daring rebels in JEFF. DAVIS' service; and he himself says that their leaving Virginia now greatly depressed his spirits.

Others of the rebel troops from Georgia and the Gulf States are beginning to insist that they too be allowed to return home to defend their beleaguered States; and an advance to Savannah in Georgia, to Pocotaligo in South Carolina, to Mississippi City, to Galveston, or on to the Balize, would make BEAUREGARD tremble for his army which has now begun to crumble to pieces.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE STONE FLEET.

The official report of Commodore DUPONT in relation to the sinking of the stone fleet, has been received at the Navy Department. The substantial part of the document consists in the report of Capt. CHARLES HENRY DAVIS, who had command of the fleet. In this report Capt. DAVIS says:

"In all this work I have been ably assisted by Commanders GIBBON and GOLDSBOROUGH, and by Lieutenants Commanding STEVENS and BALCH; and have derived much valuable information and important aid from the skill, local knowledge and zeal of Acting-Master G. H. BRADBURY and Mr. GODFREY, who acted as pilots, both of whom are worthy of your highest confidence."

Also in relation to the active part of the expedition Capt. DAVIS says:

"On the night of my arrival off Charleston, the lighthouse was blown up, by which the purpose of my visit was essentially promoted. After the bar had been sounded out two ships were sunk, one on the eastern and one on the western limit of the channel, which served to limit the field of operations. After all the ships which were to be sunk, sixteen in number, had been brought here, and in a position to be easily moved, they were towed in by the smaller steamers and placed upon and inside the bar in a checkered or indented form, lying as much as possible across the direction of the channel in several lines, some distance apart, and they are made so nearly to overlie each other that it would be difficult to draw a line through them in the direction of the channel, which would not be intercepted by one of the vessels."

Commander DAVIS says that he was guided by several principles in choosing the place and manner for sinking the vessels, viz.: first, the bar was selected because it is the principal and culminating point of the natural deposit in this line, by adding the material contained in the hulks to those already placed there by nature, it may be expected that the natural forces which aggregate the latter, will tend to keep the former in their assigned position; second, by putting down the vessels in an indented form it was intended to create a material obstruction to the channel, without seriously impeding the flow of water. If it were possible to build a wall across the channel, the river which must flow to the sea, would undoubtedly take another and similar path; but if, on the contrary, the blocking up of the natural channel is only partial, the water may retain a part of its old course, and require the addition only of a new channel of small capacity. Third, the mode of sinking the vessels is intended to establish a combination of artificial interruptions and irregularities, resembling on a small scale those of Hell Gate or Holmes' Hole, and producing, like them, eddies, whirlpools and counter currents, such as render the navigation of an otherwise difficult channel hazardous and uncertain.

OPERATIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA—THE LATE EXPEDITION UP THE EDISTO.

The following official report has been received at the Navy Department:

UNITED STATES STEAMER PAWNEE,
PORT ROYAL, S. C., Dec. 21, 1861.

SIR: In obedience to your order of the 14th inst., I left this harbor on the night of the 16th, accompanied by the gunboat *Seneca*, Lieut.-Commanding DANIEL AMMEN, and the coast-survey steamer *Vixen*, Capt. C. O. BOUTELLE, but at the bar found that the heavy northeaster which was blowing, had raised such a sea as to render it out of the question to attempt entering the rivers which I was directed to examine. I therefore returned to my anchorage, which I left a second time, however, on the following morning, and reached the North Edisto at 2 o'clock. Shortly after I crossed the bar with the *Seneca*, piloted in by Capt. BOUTELLE in the *Vixen*, which vessel he, however left when we were inside, for the *Pawnee*, his vessel remaining astern of us. At the time, we could plainly see fortifications ahead on Edisto Island, distant a mile and a half.

As it was reported to me they were filled with men, I commenced firing slowly from my bow guns, as did the *Seneca*, but receiving no answer, soon ceased, and, running by the batteries, anchored in the North Edisto River.

On landing, I found the fort, which was entirely deserted, to consist of two redoubts for five guns, each connected by a long curtain, and protected in the rear by a double fence of thick planks, with earth between and loop-holes. The guns, as the negroes informed me, had all been removed toward Charleston some weeks back.

While I was making this examination, Lieut.-Commanding AMMEN had proceeded up the river for about five miles, the effect of which was immediately apparent in the firing of cotton-houses and out buildings.

As during the night, some negroes came on board and informed us that at the small town of Reckville, which was in full sight, there was a large encampment of soldiers, at least 500, and Capt. BOUTELLE offering to go up the creek, on which it was, I determined to make them a visit in the *Vixen*, and at daylight of the 12th went on board of the vessel for the purpose of taking with me the boats and marines of the *Pawnee* and *Seneca*, under charge of Acting Master SNELL.

Owing to our running ashore, we did not reach the town until near 8 o'clock, a little above which was a sloop, laden with cotton and provisions, which I took possession of and towed alongside. There still being no signs of life on shore, I landed with 50 men, to reconnoitre, and was soon satisfied that the troops had left, as the first thing seen was the negroes pillaging a building in which there was a large quantity of commissariat stores, consisting of rice, sugar, bacon, corn, &c. This I stopped at once, and had what remained removed to the *Vixen*.

Being then informed that the camp, which was a mile from the water, was entirely deserted, I went there, but although, so far as I could learn, the troops had left at daylight, and it was then only a little after eight.

The negroes, whom I found as busy as bees, had removed the most valuable part of what had been left, which was nearly everything excepting their arms. The encampment was a large one, had been occupied for many months, and its late tenants had evidently been in the possession of every comfort. I removed to the boats forty Sibley and four ordinary tents, besides a quantity of articles of no particular value, which were lying about; and found, at a neighboring house, which seemed to have been used as headquarters, a Confederate flag.

Having pretty well cleared the ground of what was worth removing, and being desirous of examining above, I left at 2 o'clock, and proceeded up the river with the *Vixen*, not liking to trust the *Pawnee* in so narrow a channel, came on the *Seneca*, which had started at 9 o'clock to explore, fast on a mud bank. We remained by her until 9 o'clock, but found it impossible to pull her off, owing to the night tide not being as high as the morning one. While lying here, however, I sent the boats and burned a sloop, which had been run ashore some distance beyond while attempting to escape from the *Seneca*, and which could not be got afloat.

The *Vixen* afterwards returned for the night to the neighborhood of the *Pawnee*, but went back at daylight of the following morning, with a party of men and boats from this vessel, to lighten the *Seneca*, which vessel was got off at high tide.

While the *Vixen* was coming up the river, she came on a small sloop laden with cotton, from which two white men were taken, whom I now have on board as prisoners; as in the meantime nearly one hundred and fifty negroes, all in a good state of alarm, had collected on board the different vessels, I determined to land them on the point, and called in the United States steamer *Penguin*, which was cruising off the port, and to leave Lieut.-commanding BUDD in charge of the river, after my departure, until he could hear from me.

Capt. BOUTELLE was kind enough to go out in the *Vixen* and pilot the *Penguin* into her anchorage off the fort, where she now is.

On the morning of the 19th I ran down to the South Edisto, and leaving the *Pawnee* and *Seneca* at the bar went in with the *Vixen*. I found the fortifications which are on Edisto Island entirely deserted and partially destroyed. They consisted of two redoubts which mounted, so far as I could judge, four guns each; but the guns had been removed.

The *Dale* being in sight across Otter Sound, in the Ashepoo, I made signal, and Lieutenant Commanding TAUNTON pulled over with four boats. He reported that everything was quiet in the neighborhood of his anchorage, and that the fort on Otter Island was rapidly being placed in a state of defence. Up to the present time, although they had been in sight of the South Edisto forts where we were lying, they had not yet landed there.

Having finished my examination of the South Edisto, I returned to the *Pawnee* and stood north, with the intention of lying off Stono for the night, but as the weather looked threatening and the *Vixen* was almost out of coal, I went into the North Edisto again for the night, in order to have an opportunity of supplying her with some.

Lieut. Commanding BUDD reported everything as when I left, but on the following morning negroes came in and stated that the troops who had left the encampment at Rockville, being largely reinforced, shewed a disposition to reoccupy that place.

As the weather was too threatening to permit of my making a careful examination of the Stono as I intended, I determined now to return at once to this place, and report to you the state of affairs at the North Edisto. This I have done, reaching my anchorage here at 3 o'clock to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed,) P. DRAYTON, Commanding.

Flag-Officer S. F. DUPONT, Commanding South Atlantic Squadron.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS.

Hon. DANIEL S. DICKINSON, who arrived here on Saturday evening, will to-morrow present a stand of colors to the Eighty-ninth Regiment New-York Volunteers, Dickinson Guards, at their camp near the city. The colors will be received by Hon. R. H. DUELL, M. C. from Mr. DICKINSON'S district, on behalf of the regiment.

THE ARMAMENT OF THE PENSACOLA.

At the Navy-yard to-day, further practice was had with the hundred and fifty pound rifled cannon, understood to be for the *Pensacola*. This splendid gun weighs 15,000 pounds, and carries a 128 pound shell. The firing to-day was remarkable for its precision.

THE POTOMAC FLOTILLA.

A steam-tug up from the flotilla to-day, brings the report that all is quiet there. There has been no firing on either side for several days.

THE REBELS AT DRAINESVILLE.

An Aid of Gen. MCCALL says there is no foundation for the report published in several New-York papers, that there are fifteen thousand rebels at Drainesville, and that the National pickets had been driven in.

COL. KERRIGAN.

Col. KERRIGAN arrived here to-day and reported at headquarters. His further trial has been postponed until next Thursday, and his parole is extended indefinitely.

THE CASE OF LIEUT. MORRISON.

The Court Martial took up to-day the case of Lieut. MORRISON of the Pennsylvania Twenty-sixth, charged with unofficer like conduct. The evidence showed that he had been absent five days without leave, and that he connived at a fight between two of his men.

GEN. LANDER.

On Saturday, Gen. LANDER ventured to ride his horse for the first time, and though he did so without difficulty, the exercise fatigued him greatly. He will soon take the field. It is currently stated that he will take command of our forces in the effort to clear out the rebels from the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS AND SECRETARY CHASE'S FINANCIAL SCHEME—PROBABLE ISSUE OF DEMEND TREASURY NOTES, ETC.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sunday, Dec. 29, 1861.

The House Committee on Ways and Means have not yet come to any definite conclusion as to the measures to be adopted for obtaining money to support the Government and carry on the war. The plan recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, however, grows in favor the more it is examined, and is quite certain to be adopted with some material and necessary modifications. To illustrate that plan, we will suppose a man to have in hand $50,000 cash, with which he desires to establish a new bank of issue. Under Mr. CHASE'S bill, he will invest his money in six per cent. United States bonds, take them to the Secretary of the Treasury, deposit them in pledge for his proposed bank circulation, and receive from the Secretary blank bank notes of desired denominations, (equal in amount to the market value of the United States bonds pledged,) to be filled in with the name of the proposed bank, and signed by the proposed banker, and *for* which the United States would become virtually the indorser and guarantor. The banker would then draw his six per cent. interest on the pledged United States bonds, and gain whatever profit he could make on his circulation and the other incidents of ordinary banking business. This system requires no intervention of State officers, and would be beyond the reach of State legislation. The bank circulation under it, secured by the faith of the National Government in the manner described, would push its way out into a more extended field than the circulation of our State banks enjoys, because the circulating notes would be just as safe in one State as in any other, and circumstances affecting their value in any one State would affect it equally in all.

The Treasury Department is already overburdened with business, and in the adoption of the proposed system it would be a grievous error to add to its labors by making its head the Bank Commissioner for all the States. The wiser course will be to create a Bank Department, to be presided over by a man of capacity and integrity, whose duties would be not unlike those of the similar officer under the New-York State organization. This amendment to Mr. CHASE'S proposition is under consideration, and will, doubtless, commend itself to the approval of the Committee having the matter in charge.

But the important question arises, "Will the adoption of Mr. CHASE'S scheme procure the money required by Government early enough to prevent embarrassment to the Treasury and a failure of confidence in the public credit?" Able financiers, who have given the matter careful attention, are decided in opinion that it will not. The funds furnished by the Associated Banks, and those obtainable by a recourse to the thirty millions of demand notes which the Secretary is still authorized to emit under the act of last session of Congress, will be exhausted within thirty days—for besides the daily accruing liabilities of the Government, there is a large sum of public indebtedness—perhaps $50,000,000—unprovided for, and which is held back in the hands of the accounting officers. By the 1st of February the Treasury will require new supplies at the average of at least one and a half millions per day. It is unreasonable to expect sufficient results from Mr. CHASE'S scheme to meet the crisis at so early a day—admitting that the scheme will in time draw into the Treasury all that the Secretary anticipates.

It follows that some other plan must be devised; and the Press can do the country no greater service just at this time than by discussing this financial question, with a view to elucidating the best plan of providing the funds needed during the period of time which must elapse before the proposed banking system can get fairly into operation, and so yield its anticipated tribute to the Federal coffers. I have heard suggested thus far only a single expedient which seems likely to bridge over the approaching crisis. This expedient is now under consideration by the Sub Committee of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and embodies a proposition substantially as follows:

That, for temporary purposes, and until the circulating notes authorized under Mr. CHASE'S plan shall be put in circulation to the extent of $100,000,000, the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to issue $50,000,000 of demand notes, on the faith of the United States, without specifying any place of payment, and of such denominations as he may deem expedient, not less than five dollars each, which shall be receivable for all debts and demands due to the United States, and for all salaries, dues, debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations and associations within the United States. It is proposed further to make these notes a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, within the United States, and exchangeable at any time at their par value, the same as coin, at the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries, for any of the coupon or registered (interest-paying) United States Bonds which the Secretary of the Treasury is now or may hereafter be authorized to issue—the Secretary to have authority to reissue the Treasury Notes thus exchanged as often as the exigencies of the public service may seem to require.

In a few words, the proposition is to force a United States paper currency upon the country to the extent of $50,000,000. At first sight the reader, perhaps, will see some objections to this plan, that can hardly fail to fade away upon mature reflection. I will not, however, stop to anticipate these objections and discuss them. That will doubtless be done by those who are more familiar with the general subject. Let them remember that the Government *must have money* at a very early day, and that this money must be furnished by the people in some way. If any better plan of obtaining the funds, and obtaining them promptly, can be suggested, it should be presented without delay; and those who can offer no more practicable or unobjectionable scheme, that will be equally sure and prompt in its operation, certainly are bound to give an earnest support to the one above set forth. What say the capitalists of the country? Unless they speedily offer some scheme that will commend itself more to the judgment of Congress, they may expect to see this one adopted, within a week or ten days at furthest.

In discussing the wisdom and practicability of this proposition, it must be borne in mind that the Committee of Ways and Means will recommend (and Congress will pass) a war tax—say a tax in all forms of $100,000,000 during the current year, sufficient not only to pay the ordinary expenses of the Government on a peace establishment, but also ample to pay the interest on the entire war debt, *including*, of course, the United States bonds for which these demand notes will be exchanged from time to time by those into whose hands they fall. It is also probable that the bill under consideration will pass in such shape as to permit all existing banking associations to participate in its benefits by replacing their present circulating notes for those to be issued by the United States under the conditions already stated.

The competition thus excited between the old banks and those newly created under the proposed law, would operate necessarily to the speedy absorption of the United States loan. It would also in a very short time totally extinguish "wild-cat" banking, and compel the banks of every loyal State to replace their unsound or *less* sound currency with one based on Federal security, at the penalty of seeing their business pass into the hands of others having the enterprise to avail themselves of the safer, and therefore more popular system.

There can be no doubt of the constitutional power of the Government to make these demand notes a legal tender—for it is only the *States* who are forbidden to make anything a legal tender except gold and silver. The Government, by paying its officers, contractors, ship-builders, &c.. &c., with these demand notes, would have no difficulty in putting them forth; and, as they accumulate in individual hands, they would naturally be exchanged for interest-paying bonds—whereupon the Secretary has the privilege of reissuing them should the public exigency require it. This privilege of reissue, therefore, will provide the Treasury with present and continuous means of relief, should the fears prove well founded of those who doubt the adequacy of the whole banking system suggested by the Secretary. In the meantime, Congress will remain in session long enough to ascertain how the experiment works, and to modify its legislation in whatever way experience shall show to be necessary. S.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 30.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, (Rep.,) presented a petition from citizens of Steuben County, New-York, praying for the passage of a law abolishing Slavery in all the States.

Mr. FOSTER, of Connecticut, (Rep.,) presented a similar petition.

Mr. SUMNER also presented petitions from citizens of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, praying for the emancipation of the slaves under the War Power.

A communication was received from the Secretary of War, in reply to the resolution of the Senate, stating that "it is incompatible with the public interest to furnish the correspondence which has passed between Gen. SCOTT and Gen. PATTERSON."

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, (Rep.,) introduced a bill to acquire the title of the District of Columbia.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, (Union,) introduced a bill declaring certain persons alien enemies, and for sacrificing their property for the benefit of loyal persons. Referred.

The Senate then adjourned till Thursday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 30.

Mr. POTTER, of Wisconsin, (Rep.,) reported the following, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to, furnish, without unnecessary delay, to the Select Committee instructed to inquire into the alleged disloyalty of Government employes, the information asked for by the letter of the 3d inst. addressed by the Chairman of the Committee to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. POTTER also reported a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior to similarly respond. He said it was necessary that the Select Committee should have this information in order to make their report.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, (Union,) not caring to vote blindly, inquired what was the character of the information called for?

Mr. POTTER explained that in July last, the Heads of Departments were requested to furnish lists of their respective clerks, which they did, and the last request which the Secretaries of the Treasury and the Interior have not complied with, was to furnish the Committee with the names of such clerks mentioned in their first communication, who have since been removed, designating such by name. It was necessary for the Committee to have the information in order to ascertain whether the Departments have removed those who have been reported to them as disloyal so far as the Committee could learn this fact from the evidence before them. If such persons have not been removed, the Departments, by this call, would have an opportunity to furnish the reasons.

Mr. WICKLIFFE did not feel himself called upon to defend the Departments named, but he did not understand how far this House has the right to assume the Executive powers of this Government. If he understood the merits of the pending question, it was why the heads of departments did not remove certain clerks?

Mr. OLIN, of New-York, (Rep.,) said the persons charged ought to have an opportunity of refuting the allegations, which he learned, incidentally, had not been afforded.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, resuming, said, if we have heads of departments who are not competent to judge of the qualification or loyalty of their subordinates, we should strike at and remove them, aiming at higher game than mere clerks.

Mr. MALLORY, of Kentucky, (Union,) objected to the introduction of the above-named resolution, calling on the Secretary of the Interior, &c.

Mr. POTTER said Mr. WICKLIFFE'S remark would be proper if the question were on the appointment of the Committee. But the Committee has already been appointed. The very object of sending to the departments the testimony affecting the disloyalty of clerks was to afford an opportunity for vindication. The Committee have not decided any matter; they have merely taken and submitted the testimony to the heads of departments. He would inform the gentleman from Kentucky that there were to-day in the employment of the Government 500 clerks who are disloyal to the Government. There are also men in the departments, who have never uttered one word of sympathy for the Government, notwithstanding the perils which surrounded it. The departments have not in this respect performed their duty. In a great many cases where clerks have been charged with disloyalty, parties have come before the Committees, and called on God to witness that they were loyal men; while others brought letters from Senators and members of the House, declaring them to be loyal men. In many instances persons certified as loyal men have left the District, and are now found in the ranks of the enemy. Every man employed should have an opportunity to give evidence of his loyalty, and this was the object of the Committee. The resolution being objected to, it was not received for consideration.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, (Rep.,) from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill repealing certain laws creating ports of entry, the consideration of which was postponed until the second Tuesday in February, after that gentleman (STEVENS) had briefly expressed his views, saying, among other things, that "the blockade was a *quasi* admission of the nationality of those whose ports are blockaded, and that it was not a correct principle for a nation to blockade its own ports." Incidentally, alluding to the adjustment of the *Trent* affair, he said that the "conduct of France was impertinent, as she was uninvited to intervene in the affair. But when we shall have settled our domestic troubles, we must look into the holy alliance of those Powers, (France and England,) and see how far they shall be permitted to control our conduct."

Mr. SPAULDING, of New-York, (Rep.,) introduced a bill authorizing the issue of Treasury notes payable on demand. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Adjourned to Thursday.

## AFFAIRS IN REBELDOM.

### Defensive Preparations in South Carolina.

### TWELVE THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS CALLED OUT.

### Tennessee and Arkansas Loyalists in the Hands of the Rebels.

### Terrible State of Society in the South.

Our correspondents at Port Royal send us Charleston papers of a late date, from which we make the following extracts:

SOUTH CAROLINA.

TWELVE THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS CALLED FOR.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, HEADQUARTERS,
Dec. 9, 1861.

Our State is invaded, and Charleston is threatened, by land and by sea, with large forces. I, therefore, in conformity with an act passed the 7th inst., entitled, "An Act to annul and suspend certain portions of the Militia and Patrol laws of this State," do hereby issue this, my proclamation, calling for twelve thousand volunteers, to be furnished for a term of service not less than twelve months, unless sooner discharged. These troops will be received and mustered in according to orders, below issued, by the Adjutant and Inspector-General.

Unless this call is promptly responded to, a draft will be executed according to the provisions of said Act. For further particulars, special reference is hereby made to the order of the Adjutant and Inspector-General. F. W. PICKENS.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, HEADQUARTERS,
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
COLUMBIA, Dec. 9, 1861.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 121.—In accordance with the proclamation of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and under the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly, entitled "An Act to suspend and amend certain portions of the Militia and Patrol Laws of this State," it is hereby ordered:

1. That ten companies of infantry and two companies of cavalry be raised and organized forthwith from the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth and Tenth Brigades of South Carolina Militia respectively, in accordance with the ninth section of said act.

2. Brig.-Gen. DE SAUSSURE, commanding Fourth Brigade S. C. M., is directed to proceed at once to take or cause to be taken a complete and accurate census of his command, in accordance with provisions of the ninth section of the above Act of the General Assembly, and make the returns thereof to this office.

3. The Generals commanding the Seventh and Eighth Brigades of S. C. M., are directed to make out and return to this office returns of the same character.

4. That Generals of Divisions and Brigades and Commanders of Regiments are charged with the prompt extension and faithful execution of the above provisions of said act and of this order.

5. That the number of volunteers or drafted men required from each company (beat or volunteer) be apportioned by the commanding officers of regiments, under the direction of Generals of Brigades, and when any company (beat or volunteer) fails to furnish its required quota, then the commanding officer of the regiment will at once order and execute a draft for such quota, in accordance with the form provided in the one hundred and forty-sixth section of A. A. of 1841.

6. The regiments of infantry will consist of ten companies, at least 68 men in the aggregate, and the companies of cavalry of at least 72 each aggregate, to serve for a period of not less than twelve (12) months.

7. Elections will be ordered for company officers by the commanding officers of the regiments, as soon as the requisite number of men have volunteered, or been drafted, and the rolls of the companies and certificates of election will be forthwith forwarded to this office.

8. Upon the reception of the rolls of companies and certificates of elections of company officers, orders will be issued for the rendezvousing of said companies in camp, and company officers will take rank from the reception of their companies in this office.

9. Tenders of volunteer companies made from and after this date, should be made to and transmitted to this office by the commanding officer of the militia regiments from which such companies are raised, who will keep a copy of such rolls to perfect his census returns of their respective regiments.

10. All volunteer companies not having the number of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates required by law, except those in actual service, or already ordered into actual service, are herewith ordered to be dissolved, and their arms, accoutrements and equipments returned forthwith to the arsenals at Charleston or Columbia.

11. The census returns required by the act will be accurately made out and returned in a proper form to this office without delay.

12. Officers charged with duties under this order are required to execute them promptly and efficiently without further notice, upon the pain of being visited with the extreme penalties of the law.

By command of the Governor.

S. R. GIST, Adj. and Inspector-Gen. of S. C.
DECEMBER 12.

"OUR DANGERS INCREASING."

*From the Charleston Mercury, Dec. 12.*

Our readers will find, in our columns to-day, the preamble and resolutions of Mr. SAULSBURY, of Delaware, offered in the Senate of the United States, proposing to put an end to the *revolt*, by appointing Commissioners to confer with Commissioners to be appointed by the Confederate States, "for the preservation of the Union and the maintenance of the Constitution." There is *reconstruction* proposed, more formidable, perhaps, to the liberties and the lasting peace of the Confederate States, than cannon and bayonets. As the action proposed is by the Congress of the United States, it must be met, we presume, by the action of the Congress of the Confederate States. The Congress of the Confederate States will never, we presume, appoint any Commissioners to meet Commissioners from the United States, "for the preservation of the Union and the maintenance of the Constitution." They represent a Confederacy of independent States. As the representatives of an independent people, they can authorize no conference with the United States, on the assumption that they are a *portion of the United States. When propositions to treat for peace come to us, as an independent people, we can, with propriety, listen to them.* But in any other form, they should be rejected with contempt, since, by our acquiescence, they would convey an acknowledgment of guilt in asserting our independence. But laying such views aside, we do not think that the Confederate States can make a peace with the United States, which will secure to them the frontier States of Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland; and *without these States in our Confederacy, any treaty of peace with the United States, surrendering them, would be disgraceful, and, perhaps, ruinous in the future to the Confederate States.* Slavery would speedily be abolished in them, when left a portion of the United States. Every principle of policy and of honor requires that we should fight the war out to the bitter end, *before we surrender a single Slave State to the brutal fanaticism of the North.* We have no fear of the result, in the war in which we are engaged. But a policy which war and rapine and murder cannot force upon us, may be fastened upon us by the cunning slime of diplomacy. We have vanquished our enemies in every pitched battle; *and now, should England and interested Europe, may come to our aid.* It is a good time for Yankee diplomacy to crave fraternity, and reconstruct our dependency. Yet we do not believe that these resolutions will, at the present time, pass the Congress of the United States. Matters are not yet ripe for peace on either side.

ADVICE TO THE PLANTERS.

*From the Charleston Mercury.*

In the circular letter of the Secretary of the Treasury on the produce loan, and the produce of cotton, the recommendation is made, that the planters should immediately take measures for Winter crops to relieve the demands for grain and provisions, and that they should proceed to divert part of their labor from cotton, and make their own clothing and supplies. The advice is good and pertinent. *We have a war of uncertain length before us, a restricted cotton market, and consequent hard times.* Provisions, clothing, shoes, &c., are high and in demand. These things our planters can raise and make.

Let the planters enlarge the grain crops; sow wheat, rye, barley; save peas, potatoes, pumpkins; make their own clothing for family and negroes; and save hides, and make shoes for themselves and slaves. These things must be made in the South, and they never will be made until the farmer and planter take an interest in their production or manufacture. The times are tight with the planter, because he has nothing but cotton to sell. They would be prosperous enough if he had wheat, corn, oats, beef, mutton, pork, &c., to sell, and we should then have heard nothing of the present expostulations of the planting interest about the need of money to purchase ordinary supplies, and to discharge the Confederate war tax.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

In the South Carolina Senate on Dec. 3, Mr. GRAYSON offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the losses sustained by the citizens of this State, who have sacrificed their property

committing it to the flames rather than it should fall into the hands of our invaders, entitle them to the warmest sympathy of the people of this State, and that their conduct has exhibited a noble spirit of patriotism, which reflects the highest honor upon them and upon our beloved State.

On Dec. 7 Mr. RAMSAY offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire and report whether any or all of the companies of the Fourth Brigade, stationed near the City of Charleston, can be retained in said city as well as at the present camp; as, also, whether the said Brigade has or has not been called into the Confederate service.

*Resolved*, That the same Committee inquire whether any exemptions have been made from military duty, and if any have been made at the instance of persons claiming to be foreign consuls.

The Senate united with the House at 2 P. M., for the purpose of holding a ballot for a second Confederate State Senator.

A bill to amend and suspend certain portions of the militia law of this State (bill by the Committee) received its second reading.

In the House, on Dec. 7, Mr. WHALEY offered the following:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks to inquire and report what measures are necessary in relation to the taxes of those citizens of the State who are exiled from their homes, and whose property is partially or entirely in the possession of our enemies. Agreed to.

Mr. O'CONNOR introduced the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That His Excellency the Governor of the State be requested to communicate to this House (if in his judgment it be not incompatible with the public interest) the state of our military preparations to repel the recent invasion of our soil; the number of our effective forces now in the field for that purpose, and what reinforcements, if any, in men and materials of war, are expected from our sister States or the Government at Richmond.

*Resolved*, That such communication be made to the House, in open or secret session, as his Excellency may deem advisable to recommend.

Adopted after several remarks on both sides.

A bill to provide for the payment of the Confederate war tax in this State. This bill received its second reading in the House, and, after being variously amended, was sent to the Senate.

Message No. 3 from the Governor was received, relative to the amount of cotton burned on the coast, etc. Referred.

### ANOTHER FIRE.

The Charleston *Mercury*, of Dec. 7, gives the particulars of a fire in that city which destroyed a large amount of property. The firemen succeeded in checking it, but the *Mercury* states that it was incendiary in its origin. This fact and its occurrence so short a time before the conflagration of the 11th and 12th is most significant

### RATHER FLIGHTY.

A correspondent from Jeffrie's Creek sends the *Mercury* the following suggestion, which it publishes in its editorial columns, with the comment that it "certainly possesses the merit of intense originality:"

"Among the many projects for destroying the blockade, the following plan seems to me to combine less risk of life than would attend any other with an equal chance of success: Prepare a number of large iron shells, loaded with 100 pounds of powder, and a due proportion of destructive missiles. Let the shells be heavier on one side, and let this side be fitted with nipples for percussion caps, communicating with the charge. *Take these shells up in balloons, and when at a convenient altitude above the blockading squadron, allow them to descend upon the enemy's decks.* The shells should be of sufficient weight to penetrate the deck of any vessel upon which they might be dropped. Even if this plan were impracticable upon the seas, it might serve to clear our harbors, such as Tybee and Port Royal."

### THE COAST.

*From the Charleston Mercury, Dec. 12.*

Although there is, doubtless, activity enough among our forces below the city, there is but little stirring of a character that it would be proper to publish.

On Monday, Rev. B. M. PALMER, of New-Orleans, addressed the regiments of Cols. DUNNOVANT and MARTIN, at ——, and his eloquent and patriotic words were received with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Yankees have stolen two church-bells from the town of Beaufort.

### THAT ORDINANCE.

The *Mercury* remarks:

"The Washington 'special' of the NEW-YORK TIMES says that Commodore DUPONT has sent to the Navy Department the original South Carolina Ordinance of Secession, 'beautifully engraved upon parchment,' which was found at Beaufort. Beaufort is not the capital of South Carolina, and Southern engravers and photographers can furnish ABE as many such 'originals' as he wants, if he sends the cash."

## REBEL OPERATIONS IN SOUTH FLORIDA.

A Tampa Bay correspondent of the Tallahassee *Floridian* gives the following statement of operations, of which brief notice has been heretofore made:

Maj. W. L. L. BOWEN, commanding at Tampa, some weeks ago determined to break up the nefarious trade and communication that has been going on ever since the war began between our Southern coast and the United States authorities at Key West. To this end he chartered the little steamer *Scottish Chief*, and went in search of the fishing tribe. Armed with a six-pounder, he soon secured a fine fishing-smack, and brought her into Tampa Bay; but, without going up to town, he transferred his armament from the steamer to the smack, and went out again, and, without indulging in a lengthy story, he has captured twelve sail, nine smacks and three schooners, and effectually broken up the infamous traffic, and put a stop to the easy and effective means by which the enemy kept himself posted touching our affairs upon the coast.

The crews of the several vessels captured arrived at headquarters on Saturday night, and have been duly transferred to the proper authorities for final disposition. They number sixty-eight, and are a mixed multitude, some Yankees, some Spaniards, some Portuguese and some Key Westers."

## COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN NEW-ORLEANS.

The New-Orleans *Crescent* of Dec. 12, says:

"There is a desire to invest in cotton. Some buyers are transmitting their orders to Mississippi, where they can be filled and admitted to a landing on our levee, under restrictions which may be considered as conducive to the general trade of our city, but, at the same time, they are not to be made public. *The blockade of Mississippi Sound interferes greatly with the trade in sugar and molasses.* The receipts of these two articles continue large, and are now, from interruption, greatly in excess of the demand. It will take some weeks to clear the accumulations at the several railroad depôts. In the meantime, the weather continues very mild—too much so for the yield of cane in this climate. Some bulls in sugar say that the crop of Louisiana will not be more than ample to supply the Confederate States, including, of course, Kentucky and Mississippi."

The New-Orleans *Bulletin* states:

"No variation has transpired in rates of money, stocks or exchange that calls for special notice. The banks renewed maturing obligations quite freely throughout, and offered to discount for regular depositors to the full extent of their respective daily income, but the calls for extension were in most cases accompanied with unexpected heavy payments, and the demand for accommodation was generally smaller than for several weeks past. Rates of specie have steadily inclined downward from the opening of the week to the close of business this evening, but the supply of and the demand for both gold and silver could not at any time have been considered better than nominal."

The *Crescent* adds:

"The price or gold and silver has declined today. The brokers find the offerings light, attended with a light demand, and gold cannot be quoted higher than 30 to 35 per cent. Silver has also a downward tendency, retailing at 20 to 25 cents premium."

The bill relating to the judicial proceedings of the forfeiture of the charter of the banks of Louisiana that have suspended specie payment, has passed the Senate by a vote of 21 to 3.

## THE SOUTHERN UNIONISTS.

The Montgomery *Mail*, of Dec. 15, says:

"Fourteen more of the East Tennessee incendiaries arrived yesterday, under a guard, *en route* for the Yankee prison at Tuscaloosa. *Among the number is the nephew of the traitor Andy Johnson.* He is as mean and malignant in looks, as well as acts, as his old uncle is said to be. Rope is a splendid remedy for the incendiary."

The Memphis *Appeal*, of Dec. 20, says:

"Seventy-seven additional persons arrived at Little Rock on the 14th, who had been captured in Searcy County. *They were a part of the gang of conspirators whose work was discovered and broken up in Van Buren County a short time ago.* The *Journal* states that the foul conspiracy, which was the work of a fanatical old free-will Baptist preacher, aided by a few hoary-headed old sinners, who have been long living in crime and wickedness among the barrens of the northern border counties, has been thoroughly broken up by the vigilance and prompt action of the loyal citizens of those counties.

The Adams Battery have left their camp at Little Rock and gone into Winter quarters in the Boston mountains."

## STATE OF SOUTHERN SOCIETY.

### IN THE REBEL CAPITAL.

The Richmond correspondent of the Charleston *Courier* does not give a very enchanting view of the condition of affairs at the Confederate capital:

"Rowdyism is rampant in her streets. The wholesale gambling, to break up which an ineffectual attempt was made some time ago, was bad enough, but the good citizen was under no compulsion to enter the jungle of the tiger, and had himself to blame if he got scratched. *To such a frightful extent has violence increased, however, within a few weeks past, in Richmond, that this city bids fair to become as infamous as ever was Naples or Baltimore.* Shootings and stabbings are almost of every day happening. Yesterday a hack-driver was pistoled in one of the most crowded thoroughfares, because he demanded payment in advance of a drunken soldier for a desired service.

There is a temple of the muses here—Thalia and Melpomene, for example—known as the Marshall Theatre, where the legitimate drama is done by third-rate stock actors, and young women in diaphanous muslin emulate CARLOTTA GRISI and CERITO only in the exposure of their persons. Genteel people rarely, ladies never, enter this establishment now-a-days, so that the better portion of the community are but little acquainted with what is done within its walls, except through the police reports. There was a 'bloody' row there one night this week, both in the literal and slang acceptations of that term, and it came out in Court that the whole concern was little better than a low temple to a low, blackguard style of Bacchus and Venus; the resort of bullies and demireps; bars and bad women all over the house; Thalia selling whisky in the saloon of the dress circle, and Melpomene administering ambrosial cocktails to the gods above. Scarcely a night passes without a fight at this theatre. Sometimes there is a real tragedy before the curtain while the mock one is enacting on the stage, and the whole neighborhood is rendered unsafe and disorderly by the company which attends it. If some means of purification and reform for this and other nurseries of vice are not employed by the authorities, *they will breed a public ruffianism which will drive the Confederate Government disgusted from the place.*"

### IN TENNESSEE.

The Memphis *Avalanche* and *Appeal* of Dec. 16 and 20 respectively give us the following items:

"GEORGE H. ELWELL, lately connected with the Vicksburg *Sun*, managed to steal $130 from the safe of the *Avalanche* office last Thursday afternoon, and made good his escape. The financial proprietor left the safe door open with the key in the money drawer, near which ELWELL was sitting, and being called to the cellar, returned in a few minutes, when a note in the same drawer was found near ELWELL'S hands, and a subsequent examination disclosed the fact that five $20 notes on the Georgia State bank, a Confederate $20 note, and a $10 note on the Railway Company Bank of Georgia, were gone.

Yesterday morning, about three o'clock, Mrs. STARRS' boarding house on Second-street, between Madison and Monroe, was entered by two burglars. They first entered a room occupied by a family recently from Charleston, S. C., and helping themselves to some clothing, proceeded to an adjacent room, where the children of the family were sleeping, and by unconceivable meanness, rifled their pockets of the little trinkets they contained.

A band of thieves, variously estimated at from one to five hundred, have found their way to Memphis within the past ten days. They are constantly at work, and scarcely a day or night passes that some one is not called upon to suffer. We have elsewhere chronicled one of the acts of this daring band. The police—the night police—should be increased to five hundred, or the patrol in each Ward should be called out every night. The Home Legion should be bursted up at once, and a new and efficient organization substituted immediately. It will be too late for the patrol to do efficient service when the thieves, robbers and incendiaries have ruined us. Let the patrol be called out to assist the night police in guarding our homes from the depredations of the thieves and incendiaries in our midst.

Property to the amount of two millions five hundred thousand has already been confiscated by the Receiver. This is only about one-half the amount of Northern property held in our midst. Some reports have already been made of real estate, and many others are yet to report. Let them do so at once. In this connection we would state that persons who have been garnisheed to appear before Commissioner HILL on the 1st inst., and who failed to do so, are unnecessarily incurring expense. All who are garnisheed should attend at once and answer, or they will be taxed with cost.

## SCARCITY OF MONEY IN THE SOUTHWEST.

*Correspondence of the Charleston Courier.*

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Saturday, Dec. 7, 1861.

I am astonished to find such an extraordinary appreciation of the precious metals, or such a depreciation of paper money in this State. Gold has been worth 30 per cent. premium for more than a week past, and yesterday it was worth 40 per cent. I am told it is pretty much the same throughout the Mississippi Valley. In Richmond, a week ago, gold was at a premium of 14 to 18 per cent. What can make this great difference? No preference is given here to Confederate States Notes. Gold is worth from 30 to 40 per cent. premium on these notes, the same as on the notes of the Bank of Tennessee; so on any other money which is called bankable money. There are no notes in circulation here below the denomination of one dollar; the consequence is, that one must either spend in a store a whole dollar, no matter how trifling an article he may require, or submit to a shave of 30 to 40 per cent. discount on the change gratis.

I may mention one little transaction by way of illustration. I went, last evening, into a stationery store, to buy a quire of writing-paper; it was 50 cents. I handed a one-dollar note, of the Bank of Tennessee, to pay for it. I was told by the stationer he must charge me 40 per cent. on the change, that being the price of gold yesterday, or I might spend the whole dollar. In this dilemma, I bought a pack of plain visiting-cards to make up the amount. This is but one example; it is the same with everything else. Besides having to pay such an increased price for goods, as, for instance, 50 cents for an ordinary quire of writing-paper, on account of the depreciation of currency, as I was told, 30 to 40 per cent. is taken out of one's change.

At Wilmington, North Carolina, and at other places, on my journey to Nashville, no premium was allowed on gold, in payment of bills.

This inequality of exchange or want of uniformity in the relative values of currency and specie, and especially the depreciation of Confederate States money must soon produce an extraordinary derangement of financial affairs and business, and cause great distress. This apparent want of confidence, with regard to bank notes when the issue has reached a point far beyond the available resources of the banks, is reasonable enough, and there might not be so much confidence in some cases when the States sanction or guarantee the issues, for the credit of some of the individual States may be overstrained or not so good; but if there be confidence in the success and stability of the Government of the Confederate States, its notes ought not to be so depreciated, and ought not to be placed on a par with ordinary bank notes.

This primeval condition to which we are fast being carried arises either from the cupidity of merchants and tradesmen or from an unpatriotic motive on the part of a portion of the business community to embarrass the Government and the country, with a view to force a peace. While I would not accuse any large portion of the business communities of our cities with so base a motive as that of endeavoring to create a financial panic, and to destroy the credit of our Government, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that we have no inconsiderable number of Northern tradesmen and merchants, and others, among us, who, in their hearts, are not favorable to the cause of Southern independence. Whatever the motive may be, whether that of cupidity or of secret treason, it is a matter of the highest importance that the State Governments or the Confederate Government, or both, take timely and effective action to arrest the evil. PUBLICOLA.

## HOW PRICE SUBSISTS HIS ARMY.

*From the Memphis Avalanche.*

It has been a puzzle to many how PRICE, without governmental resources, has managed to subsist a considerable army in a country almost desolated. His system is not known in the "regulations." He never complains of a want of transportation, whether he is about to move ten miles or a hundred. He pays for what he takes in Missouri State scrip. His men go into the corn-field, shuck the corn, shell it, take it to mill, and bring it into camp ground into meal. Or should they have no flour, they take the wheat from the stack, thresh it themselves, or with horses or oxen, and as with the corn, ask the aid of miller to reduce it to flour. Such an army can go where they please, in an agricultural country.

## HIRE OF NEGROES.

*From the Raleigh (N. C.) Register.*

The Newbern *Progress* states that it has heard that slave laborers have been hired to the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, for the ensuing year, at $50 each. We have heard nothing of it. We find there is a general expectation that there will be some reduction in the hire of negroes for next year, from the former high prices, but we were not prepared to expect so great a reduction as that. The utter prostration of the turpentine business, and the poor prospect before cotton planters, should the war last, must greatly reduce the price of negroes.

## SULPHUR.

*From the Tuscumbia (Ala.) Constitution.*

Alabama is a perfect mountain of mineral wealth, and future wants and developments will turn out what is now considered too poor to invite capital, a perfect Eden, full of fruits and flowers, and mineral springs and healthy society. An immense bed of sulphuret of iron and copper, fourteen feet thick, exists at Boudon, Talladega County. The works turn out from three to four hundred weight of sulphur daily. This war has one good effect that the South may well feel proud of; the development of our capacity to be independent of the North, which many, who were too fond of their ease and indolent habits, could not or would not believe.

## MISSISSIPPI.

A Vicksburgh paper says:

"We learn that the Mississippi Legislature have now under consideration a bill to issue $5,000,000 in State Treasury notes, pledging the faith of the State for their redemption, the State assuming the payment of the war tax. The object of the bill is to advance to planters $25 per bale on cotton. Propositions are also pending to charter banks based on cotton. The insurance Company at Columbus has been invested with banking privileges. The Lower House has passed a bill to relieve the indigent families of volunteers, adding for this purpose thirty per cent. upon the State tax."

JACKSON, Miss., Thursday, Dec. 19.

The Bank bill has just passed the Mississippi Legislature. It provides that the banks shall receive State Treasury notes in payment of debts, and that the notes of the banks shall be receivable for all public dues except the Confederate war tax.

## THE HOG CROP.

The Knoxville *Register* says:

"For the consolation of those timid people, who are afraid the North will starve us out with the blockade, we can state, upon the authority of an officer of the Confederate Government, that the agents of the Government have already purchased in East Tennessee alone, not less than six hundred thousand hogs. The number in the hands of speculators it is impossible to estimate; and we have reason to believe there is yet, also, a considerable number in the hands of raisers, as we hear of contracts being made every day for future delivery. We believe that East Tennessee has produced pork enough to supply the whole Southern army for the next twelve months, independent of the hog-raising regions of adjacent States.

In this connection we would suggest to the Government to see that its packers do not waste the offal. The Northern Press is chuckling over the belief that our railroad machinery will soon be crippled for the want of oil. The offal of the hogs in the hands of the Government will yield an immense quantity of oil good enough for greasing car wheels."

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The law regulating the price of absolute necessities has passed the Senate of Alabama. It provides that salt, wheat, flour, bacon, lard, cotton, osnaburgs, kerseys, leather, shoes, cotton or wool cards, shall not be sold for more than 50 per cent. advance on last April prices. The penalty is fine, forfeiture and imprisonment.

The following advertisement appears in the Charleston papers:

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,
CHARLESTON ARSENAL, S. C., Dec. 6, 1861.

SALTPETRE.—Forty cents per pound will be paid for all saltpetre delivered at this Arsenal before the 1st of July, 1862, either on existing contracts with the Ordnance Department of the Confederate States, or otherwise.

F. L. CHILDS,
Dec. 10. Captain Corps of Artillery.

A dispatch dated Norfolk, Dec. 11, says: "Rumors are rife to-day of an engagement on the Peninsula. MAGRUDER evidently expects to be attacked, and the troops at Norfolk are on the *qui vive* and anxious to meet the enemy. Quiet prevails now at all points, but the storm of war may burst at any moment. *The pressure exerted by the rump Congress to induce McClellan to advance is tremendous. He evidently dreads the issue, but he may be driven to it—advance, fight and be defeated.*

*A row took place last night in the Polish regiment encamped between Suffolk and Portsmouth. Three Lieutenants were killed in the mêlee.*"

The Savannah *Republican* says:

"If the Lincolnites should remain at Hilton Head another year, they will be able, perhaps, to take off what they can grow for themselves on that and the adjacent islands in their possession. But as regards the present crop, we have good reasons for stating that they will not realize over 500 bales, if that. Why this is so, will appear in due season."

The Augusta *Chronicle & Sentinel* contains the announcement that its political editor, Mr. V. M. BARNES, has retired from that position. Mr. BARNES has been connected with the *Chronicle & Sentinel* for some time, and is a polished and pleasing writer.

An Augusta, Ga., dispatch of the 7th, says thirteen cotton houses have been burnt by their owners in Port Royal Island, one in Paris and one in St. Helena, since the invasion. Letters from Hardeville the 7th, say that active preparations for defense are progressing. A detachment of the Beaufort artillery visited Beaufort and burned 450 bales of Sea Island. A detachment of Col. Martin's mounted regiment was ambuscaded while going into Beaufort, Friday. Lieut. Barnwell was wounded in the arm.

On Dec. 12th, Mr. MCDERMON introduced in the Tennessee Senate, "a memorial from certain citizens of Gibson county, praying the exemption of one shotgun or rifle to the heads of families, from military service." The memorial was read, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On the same day, Mr. HURST introduced into the same body, "a bill to improve public roads from Knoxville to Cumberland Gap, for military purposes." It passed the first reading, and was referred.

### RELEASE OF AN ALLEGED SPY.

RICHMOND, Dec. 19.

W. P. BYRD, of Augusta, Ga., who was arrested here early in September as a spy, has been released. The *Examiner* says the decision in his favor was made after favorable representations in his behalf made by Hon. H. C. BURNETT, member of the Confederate Congress from Paducah (Ky.) District.

### A DELICATE QUESTION.

The Charleston correspondent of the Richmond *Examiner* thus alludes to a very delicate question:

"I have alluded to the fact that many persons have claimed and obtained consular exemption from military duty. This brings up a delicate question—one which has of late been a matter of considerable comment and discussion here—to wit: *the right of the foreign consuls to exercise their official functions in a port of the Confederate States, under the exequatur of the United States Government.* A day or two ago, a resolution of inquiry on this very subject was introduced into the State Legislature, now in session at Columbia."

### DOOMED TO DISAPPOINTMENT.

*From the South Carolinian, Dec. 14.*

We returned last evening from a short visit to Richmond. An impression prevails there *that the blockade will be raised in less than thirty days.* We incline to the opinion that it is based on the expectation generally entertained that Great Britain will resent the insult to her flag by Com. WILKES.

Both branches of the Tennessee Legislature have passed a resolution to take a recess from the 21st inst. to the 20th of January.

The Eighth Tennessee Regiment has gone to South Carolina.

### BANK ACT IN MISSISSIPPI.

*To the Memphis Appeal and Avalanche.*

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 19.

The bank bill has just passed the Tennessee Legislature. It provides that the banks shall receive State treasury notes in payment of debts, and that the notes of the banks shall be receivable for all public dues, except the Confederate war tax.

## ADDITIONAL FROM PORT ROYAL.

### Good Position of Our Forces—The British Steamer Fingal in a Tight Place—The Rebels Growing More and More Despondent—Cotton Gathering—Extract from the Log of the Wabash, &c.

*Correspondence of the New-York Times.*

PORT ROYAL, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1861.

Since my last, the good work of crushing out the rebellion from the South Carolina and Georgia part of the Southern coast has gone steadily forward. It is certain that, in some important respects, an immediate change is needed. Now that the base of operations is being formed in the fortifications at Hilton Head, more artillery and cavalry should be at once put in the field. Our force is perfectly safe on all the islands of the South that it is expedient to occupy. The rebels cannot approach our defences to any advantage.

The health of the army and navy, all along the coast, continues good. Considering the exposures endured, this is remarkable. The expeditionary corps, under Commodore DUPONT and Gen. SHERMAN, occupy the shore for more than eighty miles—from Tybee to Otter Islands. We have about seventeen thousand active troops on shore, and at least four thousand fighting men in the fleet.

The fortifications at Hilton Head are progressing well. Much credit is due in their construction to the New-York Volunteer Engineer Corps of Col. SERRILL and Lieut.-Col. HALL. This is an admirable body of men, and is rendering great service to the country. It has just received an addition of 300 to its ranks. They embrace, as a whole, the very men most needed in putting down such a rebellion—able, hardy, intelligent, shrewd practical mechanics—men accustomed to hard words and hard knocks in the cause of free and compensated labor—men who are prepared to defend, at the mouth of the cartridge-box what they teach at the mouth of the ballot-box. In throwing up intrenchments, crossing rivers by pontoon bridges, building wharves, preparing broken and deserted machinery, reconstructing railroads, the Engineer Corps is doing a good work, and deserves well of the country. Its park of artillery, now in Washington, has acquired the reputation of being one of the very best in the field. It is much needed now in South Carolina, and should be sent forward without a moment's delay.

A small body of men recently escaped from Com. TATNALL'S flag-ship, came to our camp at Hilton Head on Tuesday night of last week, and were immediately placed on board the *Wabash*. From them we learn that the demoralization of TATNALL'S Mosquito fleet, and of the rebel forces in the vicinity, has become quite general. The attempt of the British steamer *Fingal* to escape from her hiding place near Savannah, has been prevented. She is in a tight place and cannot get out.

A large number of the barbette guns of Fort Pulaski have been removed into Savannah. There are, however, but few troops in the city, and these are of the class not always to be safely depended upon. Not more than 2,000 fighting men are there. The inhabitants have nearly all fled.

Those of the residents on the islands who have come to our lines, represent the feeling of the rebels as growing every day more and more desponding. Mr. WILLIAM HARDING, an Englishman, was living with his wife, a New-Jersey woman, a native of Mount Holly, on Dawfuskie Island, near Savannah, in charge of a portion of the property of Mr. STODDARD, a Northern man. Mr. and Mrs. HARDING showed me a letter from Mr. STODDARD, written at Savannah, a few weeks ago, in which he expresses the greatest depression at the state of affairs at the South, and sadly deplores the war. There is no doubt but Mr. STODDARD speaks the sentiments of a large body of the well-informed men of the South.

The condition of things at Beaufort is gradually becoming more settled. Much credit is due to Col. LEARNED of the Roundhead (Pennsylvania) Regiment, for the improvement that is becoming manifest. This regiment is one of the best in the Union army. It is a true exponent of the sentiments of a large majority of the people of the Keystone State. In its numbers it is always full; in its discipline and drill it has no superior, while in its moral aspects it is an honor to the name it bears, and the gentlemanly officers who command it. If all our officers and men were like the Roundheads, this war for the Union would be honorably closed and a peace established on a just basis in one month.

The Quartermaster's Department, one of the most difficult to manage of any in a volunteer army, is admirably well conducted by Capt. SAXTON, U. S. A. This gentleman is a graduate of West Point, and has had a great deal of valuable experience. His whole course in connection with the origin and progress of the expeditionary corps evinces great purity of motive and high-toned patriotism. Perhaps the expedition is more indebted to Capt. SAXTON for its essential features than to any other man. In its Quartermaster arrangements at Port Royal and Beaufort he has shown great administrative ability, and is well backed up by Capts. MORGAN, HASCALL and FULLER. The monetary interests of the country, supplying the sinews of war, are much indebted to these gentlemen.

The amount of cotton to be gathered among the different islands is becoming more and more developed. Whether the sum total will reach, as has been intimated, more than $2,000,000 is a question. Some of the fields through which I have passed, are now producing the third picking, the former parts of the crop having been placed in barns. In some districts these barns have been set on fire—whether by the negroes or by secret agents of the late proprietors it is impossible to say. Just as I was leaving Beaufort, on Wednesday last, an immense smoke, from one of the nearest islands in the direction of Charleston, told us by the character it bore on the sky that an immense store of cotton was burning below.

In the work of gathering, ginning and baling the cotton, the colored laborers are doing well. When paid fairly and treated kindly they do all that is asked of them. They also render important services in loading and unloading cargoes, transporting goods on shore, constructing breastworks, cooking, washing and serving in camps. Some of them exhibit remarkable intelligence, and bring us very valuable information. In our land approaches to Savannah we have been frequently furnished information that is highly useful, from among the colored lads who have escaped.

The body of the people occupy tents and quarters by themselves. They keep within the lines, and are always respectful. Mr. LEE, the superintendent, has taken great pains to have them properly cared for. On the arrival at Hilton Head of Rev. C. W. DENISON, United States chaplain, a liberal supply of bibles, testaments, primers, spelling and hymn books was received. These are now being distributed here and at Beaufort, under the direction of Mr. DENISON. The people show a great avidity in learning to read. It seems to them as if a new era was dawning, and they hail its light with joy. Sabbath and day schools are being formed, which are well attended, orderly and useful. As fast as the question of compensation is settled and the labor of the country becomes free and educated, the day of redemption will have come to the South.

Inclosed I send you some particulars from the log of the United States steamship *Wabash* that have not been published:

EXTRACT FROM THE LOG OF THE U. S. FLAG-SHIP WABASH, NOV. 7, 1861.

8:8 A. M.—All hands up anchor.
8:18—Anchor up, and ship under way.
9—Beat to quarters to engage the enemy. The forts on Hilton Head, on Bay Point, and the enemy's steamers close aboard.
9:17—All ready for action. Stood in for the enemy. Starboard guns trimmed well forward to bear on Bay Point, at the fort called Fort Beauregard.
9:27—Enemy opens fire from Hilton Head; fort called Fort Walker. Their shot fell far short of us. Immediately after enemy opens fire from Bay Point. This fire was answered at once from our forward pivot-gun, under Acting-Master SAMSON. The shot is good. Our port broadside was also at once brought into action against Hilton Head port, and a heavy gun masked, about 500 yards below the fort.
9:45—*Bienville* ranged alongside, on the starboard beam.
9:53—Ceased firing from the *Wabash*, until the ship came round to present the starboard guns on Hilton Head.
10:3—Reopened fire with our forward pivot gun, and made signal for close action with Hilton Head fort. Kept up a well-directed fire from ou starboard battery. Received a shot, which cut in two the starboard lower studdingsail boom and sheet-anchor jewsharp.
10:15—A shot carried away the paunch batten of the mainmast.
10:30—None of our guns bearing, we ceased firing. An 80-pound rifled shot passed through our mainmast, near the centre, about twelve feet above the deck. Two other shots successively cut away both mainstays, about twenty-five feet from collars; and a fourth shot cut away the end of the spanker-boom, at the taffrail.
10:35—Resumed firing from our port battery.
10:37—Ceased firing, except from port guns. Ship turned.
10:40—Manned the starboard battery, to play upon Bay Point fort.
10:53—Ceased firing. Ship turned again.
11:15—Ship heading S. S. E.
11:18—Fired our bow pivot gun, on the starboard side, against Hilton Head.
11:26—Opened with all the starboard battery on Hilton Head. Ship now ran in within 800 yards of Hilton Head Fort. Poured in all the starboard battery, and both pivots from the starboard bow. Knocked the rebel flag-staff to the ground. The firing from our guns was admirably accurate.
11:40—Ceased firing, except with pivot guns. Ship again veers round.
11:50—Reopened fire on Hilton Head from our port battery and pivots. Our jib halliards were cut away twice. Maintop-gallant-stay cut away.
11:52—Received a heavy shot in our starboard main chain, which carried away the lower dead-eye, and lanyard of forward maintopmast backstay, and topsail halliards, and smashed in the hammock rail. Starboard battery immediately manned to open on Bay Point.
11:54—A heavy shot passed through the starboard headrail, and stranded the port forward foresnifter.
11:55—Our starboard mizzen horse-block shot away, and upper part of starboard after port badly chipped, by shots from Hilton Head.
11:56—The port battery manned to bear on Hilton Head.
11:58—Ceased firing from the gun-deck.
12 M.—A 42-pound shot, from Bay Point, struck near the north gun of the port battery and wounded four men, knocking a hole through the deck, and breaking into the hammock netting, where it lodged. The Captain of the No. 13 gun, THOMAS JACKSON, had his leg shot away at the thigh. He was removed to the cockpit, where he died in less than an hour. Others at the same gun were injured by splinters.
12:10—Ceased firing. Ship going round. The men have biscuit and rations at the guns.
1:15—Report came by signal from the gunboat *Ottawa*, that Hilton Head Fort was abandoned.
1:30—Same report made by the gunboat *Pembina*, then alongside of the *Wabash*.
2 P. M.—The starboard battery was manned, and we ran in within 500 yards of Hilton Head Fort and fired into it both the pivot guns. They were not answered.
2:12—Commander JOHN RODGERS left the *Wabash* in one of our boats, with a flag of truce, to visit the Fort on Hilton Head.
2:15—Report from the masthead of the *Wabash* that about 1,000 men from the enemy's battery on Hilton Head were in full retreat for the woods.
2:20—The American flag is flying from the enemy's ramparts.
2:45—The *Wabash* anchored off abreast of Hilton Head Fort, and proceeded to land her marines. Lieut. BARNES took a company of 50 small-arms men in the tug *Mercury* to land at Fort Walker. Capt. C. R. P. RODGERS accompanied him.
2:50—Fort Walker, on Hilton Head, was formally taken possession of by Commodore DUPONT, and officially turned over to the command of Brig.-Gen. WRIGHT, with his brigade.
4 P. M.—Secured the guns and went to supper.

NEPTUNE.

### A Phase of the Barbarism of Slavery—African Peculiarities, &c.

*Correspondence of the New-York Times.*

PORT ROYAL, Friday, Dec. 20, 1861.

A day or two ago I wandered over the opposite island, using the time with Charcoal and Friday in familiar talks and pertinent inquiry. In my travels I met most decidedly the oldest pair of human beings, husband and wife, I ever saw; bent almost double, and singularly frail and thin, with lines of age carved in each lineament; knotted and notched in long, bony arms and fingers, with weak and tremulous bodies. The sad facial lines evidenced a life of despondence and weary labor—"No rest, massa, all work, all de time; plenty to eat, but no *rest*, no repose; so glad we got chance for little comfort." The almost boundless plantation, complete in every needful thing for life here, well tilled, and once full of stores of provisions, proved it. Stout black fellows, erect and kingly in their new gotten liberty, allowed the mother, whose every step was marked with pain, to lean on their shoulders with affection as tender as a high civilization engenders. I was led into a dark story of a place, and was informed that a couch was there, and on it a woman sick unto death, if despairing groans that issued therefrom told this. I could not see the poor victim of misfortune and woe, for darkness was not visible. Alleviating medicines were sought with polite courtesies and pulling of the wool at the forehead. These poor creatures left alone in sickness, illustrate the barbarism of Slavery in bold lines. They had just buried a relative and were alarmed at the prospect, for they have a superstitious horror of death, and lonely enough was their condition. They have been accustomed to lean in filial confidence on the aid of their masters in sickness, who, from fear of loss, give them great attention; admirably well conducted by Capt. SAXTON, U. S. A. This gentleman is a graduate of West Point, and has had a great deal of valuable experience. His whole course in connection with the origin and progress of the expeditionary corps evinces great purity of motive and high-toned patriotism. Perhaps the expedition is more indebted to Capt. SAXTON for its essential features than to any other man. In its Quartermaster arrangements at Port Royal and Beaufort he has shown great administrative ability, and is well backed up by Capts. MORGAN, HASCALL and FULLER. The monetary interests of the country, supplying the sinews of war, are much indebted to these gentlemen.

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11:55—Our starboard mizzen horse

built of heavy timbers—the sides of boiler-iron, loop-holed for musketry, are so arranged that they can be used as bridges, and will each carry one of the heaviest mortars used in warfare. Small tug-boats will be used to tow the mortar-boats into position.

There is also a ponteon train being built, by —— SIMPSON, of New-York City. It is of gutta percha, composed of inflated floats, and may be put in use, taken up and transported in the smallest possible time, and with but little labor.

The expedition was commenced by Commander JOHN R. ROGERS, with the *Conestoga*, *Lexington* and *Tyler*—the facts of which are already before the public. But it has, however, been mainly arranged and brought to its present state of efficiency by Flag officer A. H. FOOTE, a distinguished officer of the naval service, and who has proved his efficiency and gallantry in every position in which he has been placed during a long course of active service. His daring attack and storming of the Chinese forts ja a part of the history of the American Navy; and lately as Commander of the New-York Navy-yard, he discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of the Government. His former brother officer, but now rebel antagonist Capt. HOLLINS, in sending his regards to him lately from Columbus under a flag of truce, was constrained to say that he was the "right man in the right place!"

The following are the officers of the fleet, with their commands, as far as made, and their native States:

Flag-Officer A. H. FOOTE, commanding, Connecticut.
Commander Wm. D. Porter, Pennsylvania, *Essex*.
Commander Roger Perry, Maryland, not assigned.
Commander A. H. Kelly, Maryland, not assigned.
Commander A. M. Pennock, Virginia, Fleet Captain.
Commander J. A. Winslow, North Carolina, not assigned.
Commander H. Walk, Virginia, *Taylor*.
Commander B. M. Dove, Virginia, not assigned.
Lieut.-Commanding J. P. Sanford, Ordnance Officer.
Lieut.-Commanding K. N. Steurbel, New-York, *Lexington*.
Lieut.-Commanding S. L. Phelps, Ohio, *Conestoga*.
Lieut.-Commanding Leonard Paulding, New-York, Recruiting Service.
Lieut. J. W. Shiffk, Pennsylvania, not assigned.
Lieut. J. Bishop, Missouri, *Tyler*.
Asst. Quartermaster Capt. George W. Wise, Maryland, on Gunboat Service.

It will be seen from this that a majority of the officers are Southern men. Commander PORTER comes of good stock, being a son of Commodore PORTER, whose name and deeds are familiar to every reader of American history. Lieut.-Commanding SANFORD gave up a lucrative business at Albany, N. Y., to offer his services to his country,—has constructed a large amount of war material for the Government, and has seen naval service before, having been with WILKES in his exploring expedition.

Capt. WISE is a cousin of Gov. H. A. WISE, a brother of the author, HENRY WISE, now at Washington, and for some 20 years has been in the United States service engaged in the Coast Survey.

Flag-officer FOOTE holds the same rank as Maj.-Gen. HALLECK, although his junior by date of his commission. Each is entirely independent of the other, but, as a matter of course, will cooperate in the proposed expedition.

The magnitude of the preparations may to some extent be inferred when it is known that the salaries of the officers reach the amount of $60,000 a month—that 500,000 bushels of coal have been contracted for and delivered at Cairo—that clothing to the amount of $40,000 has been contracted for and is on its way hither—that 800 tons of powder have been sent to Cairo, and other war material beyond all computation.

The grade of officers, the gunners, pilots and all other classes necessary to man the boats, are arranged precisely as in the navy of the United States. The number of men required on each boat cannot be given without affording information to the enemy.

All of the gunboats have gone to Cairo, and all the mortar-boats except twelve, and they will probably be towed down to-day.

So confident are some of the naval officers in the strength of the gunboats, that several of them have offered to take the *Benton* and lay her under the batteries of Columbus, confident that her immense strength will resist the heaviest metal in the possession of the Confederates. The plates upon the gunboats were submitted to severe tests, and evinced almost fabulous invincibility. Heavy rifled shots were fired at them at a distance of only 160 yards, and in every case they were either only slightly indented or else they shivered the shots into innumerable fragments or turned them harmlessly aside.

Of course little is known of the number of the enemy, or the strength or character of the fortifications at Columbus. In fact, the diagrams in a late issue of a Metropolitan daily, in which are given the shape and character of the works at Columbus and the very encampment and number of the forces at that place, are universally laughed at by military men here, who place no reliance upon them whatever, and believe them to have been gotten up in the same office at which they were published.

It is, however, very generally believed that the works at Columbus, Memphis and intermediate points, are of great strength, and that they will be defended with a vigor and determination equal to their importance. It is, however, thought that their guns are not as heavy as ours, while the superior skill of our gunners (most of whom are old in the service) will be an element of immense importance in our favor.

It is very generally thought that the defenders of Columbus are mostly of the younger classes—the older and the more veteran soldiers being now with the army on the Potomac. This inference is made from the reports of individuals who have lately come North, and also from the fact that during the visits of their flags of truce there has been a great deal of that bluster and braggadocio which is never indulged in by a truly brave or a tried foe.

There has been a good deal of talk concerning HOLLINS' Battering Ram, which was to do such great service at New-Orleans in raising the National blockade, and which is now supposed to be at Columbus. However formidable in theory and in the columns of secesion journals, the "ram" excites no particular terror among our naval officers here. As to the other fleet of gun and tug boats, which are said to be at Columbus, there is considerable doubt. Most of the New-Orleans tug-boats draw from 10 to 12 feet, and hence it is an entire impossibility that they could ever get up as far as Columbus—hence the story of the New-Orleans fleet having arrived at Columbus is, to say the least, highly improbable. It will not be far from the truth, to put the entire force at Columbus at from twenty to thirty-five thousand men—their gunboats at three, and the balance of the fleet at a half dozen tugs and lesser steamers.

But, in speaking so particularly of Columbus, I do not mean to state that the first blow will fall there. It may be directed down the river—it may go up the Cumberland or the Tennessee; its destination is purely a matter of guess-work.

But when it does come, there will be a day of terrible reckoning for the sons of rebellion, who now swagger and flaunt in treason-chained Memphis and Columbus. When fifty thousand bayonets climb the heights in their rear—when the tremendous storm from two score mortar and a dozen gunboats pours its floods of fire and iron hail into their midst — then, perhaps, will they be compelled to recognize the power which they have offended and expiate in blood their attempt to disintegrate this once glorious Union. There is a storm gathering here and at Cairo which will soon burst over the strongholds of secession. When its heavy thunders shake the foundations of their earth, and its sheeted lightnings carry death and destruction through their land, they will, perhaps, acknowledge that there "is a God in Israel"—that there is a Government left with power to crush out treason—that the strong-armed "mud-sills" of the North are a match for the swaggering, vaunting, "chivalrous" hordes of this dastardly, uncalled-for rebellion. GALWAY.

## CITY AND COUNTY AFFAIRS.

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

THE SOLDIERS' ALLOTMENT FUND—COMPTROLLER'S WEEKLY STATEMENT—THE INDEPENDENT TELEGRAPH—A DONATION.

At a regular meeting of this Board, last evening, President GENET in the Chair, a communication was received from A. V. Stout, Esq., Commissioner of the Allotment Fund, asking an extension of the time in which he was required by the Board to report the expenses attending the performance of his trust, in view of the fact that additional legislation is required by Congress before he will be enabled properly to perform the duties connected with his appointment. The request was granted, and the time was extended to the 1st of March, 1862. The following is the communication:

*To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of New-York:*

GENTLEMEN: On the 23 d day of December I had the honor to receive a duly certified copy of certain resolutions, appointing me Commissioner of the Soldiers' Allotment Fund, the said resolutions having been just passed by both Boards, and approved by his Honor the Mayor.

One of the resolutions referred to is in the following words:

*Resolved*, That on or before the first day of January, 1862, the said ANDREW V. STOUT be and he is hereby directed to report to the Common Council what amount has been allotted from each of the several regiments from this City for the benefit of the families of the members thereof, the expenses incurred by him in procuring such allotments, and also an estimate of the probable monthly expenses which will be required thereafter, in order to carry out in the most vigorous manner the purpose of these resolutions.

The brief space of time elapsing between the date upon which my appointment as Commissioner was officially communicated to me and the day designated in the foregoing resolution for a detailed report of the amounts allotted and the actual and estimated expenses connected therewith is, it will readily be conceded, so short as to preclude the possibility of my literal fulfillment of the duties imposed within the single week allowed me, and I would therefore respectfully suggest to your honorable body the necessity of extending the time during which I may prosecute investigations with the view to present a careful report of the results so desirable of attainment.

Within the few days that have passed since the receipt of the certified resolutions, I have given all practicable attention to the performance of the duties assigned me under the resolutions; have visited Washington for the purpose of learning the location of New-York regiments and other necessary details, and have conferred with the soldiers of various commands with reference to the allotment system as proposed.

No practical result has been attained, however, from the fact that, not only was the time too limited, but the passage by Congress of an Allotment act, somewhat conflicting with the resolutions under which I was acting, compelled me to suspend my action until some amendatory legislation could be procured by which to counteract the oversights and injustice inadvertently committed by the Congressional act.

The law, as passed, authorizes the President to appoint three Commissioners for each State having troops in the field. These Commissioners are empowered to visit the several military Departments and obtain allotments from the soldiers. The allotment rolls thus made, when certified by the Commissioners, shall be given to the Paymasters, who, at the time of making payments, shall give to the soldiers drafts on New-York, for the sums alloted, payable to the order of the persons for whom such sums are intended.

However suitable this plan may be, and doubtless is, for villages, towns and the smaller cities—where identification is either unnecessary or perfectly feasible, it will be seen at a glance that the provisions of the act virtually overlook the impossibility of making the allotments for the State and City of New-York upon a basis which will apply to more sparsely inhabited localities with comparative safety and certainty. The City of New-York, represented at the seat of war by some fifty or sixty thousand of her citizens, is manifestly entitled to select her own Commissioners, and to suggest a plan of operations, under the Allotment system, which shall meet the exigencies of the thousands who are vitally interested in an efficient, faithful and economical medium of financial communication between the soldier citizens of New-York and their relatives and friends at home.

Without enlarging here upon the points in the new law of Congress which require alteration in order to give to our City its due proportion of the advantages flowing from the allotment scheme, I may say that the subject of amending the law has been brought to the attention of prominent members of the Senate and House of Representatives, and has met with their concurrence and approval as being an act of justice to our City. In the view that such amendment is of vital importance to the proper fulfillment of my own duties as the Commissioner selected by the Common Council to act in their name and on their behalf, it has been my earnest endeavor to secure some prompt action on the part of Congress in this direction, and I expect again to visit Washington in a few days to effect this object.

I therefore renew my request that your honorable body will so extend the time originally named in the resolution, that opportunity may be afforded for preparing the proper amendments for presentation to Congress, by the passage of which all difficulties and obstacles may be removed out of the way of a thorough prosecution of the plan indicated by the resolutions under which I have the honor and pleasure to act.

The importance of amendatory legislation by Congress, with reference to the act just passed, will be the more evident when it is considered that under the existing provisions of that act there is an utter absence of system or official responsibility, and nothing in the act can compel the thorough performance of duty on the part of the Commissioners beyond their own volition: and unless the contemplated amendment can be secured the City will be compelled to continue the weekly aid now rendered to the families of soldiers.

Should your honorable body see fit to grant my request for the necessary extension of time, I hope to be able to present in due time a detailed statement of facts in reference to the subject of allotments which shall vindicate the action of your honorable body in the passage of the resolutions under which it is my privilege to act. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant. A. V. STOUT,
Commissioner of Soldiers' Allotment Fund,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1861.

The weekly statement of the Comptroller represents the receipts and expenditures of his Department for the past week as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Receipts | $228,849 31 |
| Payments | 260,421 88 |
| Balance on hand Dec. 28 | $3,365,073 54 |

The Board concurred in allowing the Independent Telegraph Company to erect poles in the streets, subject to the usual regulations.

The resolution from the Board of Councilmen, making the TIMES a Corporation paper, was read, and laid over under the rule.

The Board concurred in donating $800 to Mary J. Hall, to recompense her for an unjust tax upon her property for the building of a sewer.

After disposing of some unimportant papers, the Board adjourned to 2 o'clock this afternoon.

### BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

THE SUPERVISORS AND THE NEW COURT-HOUSE—INJUNCTION SERVED IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW-YORK AND YONKERS RAILROAD.

After the reading of the minutes and the reference of petitions, a communication was received from the Comptroller, in answer to inquiries as to the action of the Supervisors with reference to the new Court-House, and the land taken therefor, stating that body had in all things complied with the requirements of the statute, which was referred to the Committee on Finance. A communication was received from the Corporation Counsel, in answer to the resolution passed by this Board on Saturday, as to the validity of the injunction in the matter of the Fort Gansevoort property. Mr. Bronson states that the resolution reached him at his house, where he is confined by illness, and that being absent from his books he is not prepared to pronounce upon the validity of the injunction. He adds, however, that this will cause very little delay, as Judge Dean will appear for the City on the 31st (this day), when the case will be argued, and a speedy decision no doubt had. The communication was ordered on file.

From the other Board a communication was received in favor of directing the Street Commissioner to advertise for proposals for building a house for Engine Company No. 10; concurred in. In favor of regrading a portion of Eleventh-avenue, near Thirty-third-street.

A communication was received from A. V. Stout Esq., in answer to a call for information as to the amount in his hands for the relief of the families of volunteers, which may be found in report of Board of Aldermen.

During the reading of this paper, Deputy-Sheriff Cornell was observed presenting a printed document to each member, which proved to be the following injunction, issued from the Supreme Court, restraining any action in the matter of the New-York and Yonkers Railroad:

Present, Hon. Geo Gould, Justice.

*The People of the State of New-York* vs. *The Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York.*—This cause, coming on to be heard on an order to show cause why an injunction should not issue against the defendants, restraining them from granting permission to the New-York and Yonkers Railroad Company to lay rails in certain streets of the City of New-York, mentioned and described in the complaint in this action, and, after hearing William M. Evarts, Esq., for plaintiffs, in support of such injunction, and Gilbert Dean, Esq., for defendants, in opposition thereto, it is ordered that the defendants, and each and every of them, be, and they are hereby, perpetually enjoined and restrained from granting to the New-York and Yonkers Railroad Company, mentioned and described in the complaint of this action, the right to lay or construct the railway described in said complaint, or any part thereof, in the streets or avenues, or any or either of them, in the City of New-York, mentioned and particularly set forth in said complaint; or from in any manner consenting thereto, or from taking any further action in relation to the ordinance or resolutions giving permission to construct said railway, which is mentioned and referred to in said complaint, or from giving or granting the consent or authority of the said defendants to the said Company, or to any other Company, Association or person or persons, to lay or construct a railroad in any of the streets or avenues of the said City, unless the right or permission shall be disposed of at a public auction, as required by the forty-first section of the act entitled "An Act to amend the Charter of the City of New-York," passed April 14, 1857; or from granting, authorizing, or consenting that said Company, or any Company, Association, person or persons, may construct any railway in Broadway, Greenwich-avenue, Eighth-street, Waverley-place, Greene-street, University-place, Broadway or Bloomingdale Road, in said City, in any or either of said streets, avenues, places or roads.

(Copy.) R. BABCOCK, Clerk.

At Mr. STOUT'S request, the time for preparing his report was extended to March 1, 1862, as passed by the other Board.

Mr. GROSS desired to limit the time to Feb. 1, and so moved, but it was lost by a tie vote, and the resolution from the other Board was then concurred in.

An award of $250 was made, by the other Board, to Harry Howard, Sergeant-at Arms of this Board, but opposition being made by Mr. PINCKNEY, who could see no reason for such an appropriation of public money, the resolution was referred.

In favor of paying $2,700 to the Eighth Regiment—referred.

The salary of the messenger to the Corporation Attorney was increased to $500.

The Special Committee on the Croton Department reported their examination of the books and accounts of that Department as being eminently correct and satisfactory.

The Street Commissioner was directed to advertise proposals for dredging out the slip at Pier No. 45 East River.

A resolution to furnish the members elect with the necessary books, stationery, star, badge, &c. Adopted.

The resolution to award the Clerks of this Board the sum of $250 each, for extra services rendered by them during the year, was called up, and opposed by several members.

Mr. ORTON moved, as a substitute, the name of Charles S. McClenachan alone.

Mr. STEVENSON moved to insert the name of Mr. J. S. Matthews, which was lost, and the substitute offered by Mr. ORTON was lost—ayes 5, noes 19.

The question was then about to be put on the original resolution, with four additional names proposed by Mr. HOGAN, when Mr. ORTON moved to insert the names of the Councilmen, which was declared out of order, on the ground that the members could not vote on any matter in which they were interested, whereupon Mr. ORTON declared they would not vote for it.

Mr. PINCKNEY opposed the whole matter, as did Mr. ORTON; the latter in strong, but dignified terms, declaring that, in his opinion, any member who would, in view of his responsibilities as a legislator, deliberately vote for such a gratuity, would put his hand in his neighbor's pocket and extract his money. Without impugning the worth or services of any clerk, he thought they were all now abundantly paid.

Mr. BRANDON moved to amend by adding $15 to each salary, which was lost, and the amendment of Mr. HOGAN was adopted.

The original resolution, as amended, granting the sum of $250 each to nine clerks, was put and carried—ayes 13, noes 11.

Adjourned until Tuesday, 3 P. M.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

CLOSE OF THE YEAR—BRIEF SESSION AND UNIMPORTANT BUSINESS.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with, the printer not having furnished them. Several bills and petitions were received and appropriately referred. An award was made of $1,070 for damages done to premises owned by B. Wheelwright by the use of the same for a House of Detention for Witnesses, and several bills for fitting up election polls were ordered paid. The annual report of the Clerk of the Board was received and ordered printed. The sum of $1,750 was ordered paid to Messrs. Roach on account of iron furnished for the new Harlem bridge, and $501 each to the parties in charge of the work. Adjourned until Monday next.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

SPECIAL MEETING—CLOSING UP THE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR—FINANCIAL STATEMENT—FAVORABLE CONDITION, ETC.

The Board of Education held a special meeting at 5 o'clock P. M. yesterday, the President, WM. E. CURTIS, Esq., in the Chair.

After the reading and acceptance of the minutes of the last session, sundry communications and resolutions of no general interest, were read and referred to the proper Committees.

The salary of the Junior Financial Clerk was, after some debate, increased to $500, by a vote of 22 to 8.

The motion of Mr. Waterbury, of the Twentieth, to reconsider the action of the Board, at its last meeting, upon the report of the Committee on Teachers in reference to a tariff of salaries, was the next business in order, and was taken up, Mr. Waterbury renewing his motion and arguing in its favor. Messrs. Benedict, of the Fifteenth, and Farr, of the Ninth, opposed it, the latter moving to lay the motion of Mr. Waterbury on the table. This was lost, eighteen voting in the negative and thirteen in the affirmative. A direct vote was then taken on the reconsideration, which was lost by nineteen in the negative to thirteen in the affirmative.

Reports being next in order, the Committee on Finance reported that the finances of the Board were in a very favorable condition as compared with previous years, and presented the following:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

| | |
|---|---|
| The School Fund of 1861, consisted of the following: | |
| Amount received from the State | $212,768 99 |
| An equal amount from County | 212,766 99 |
| One-twentieth of one per cent. on valuation of real and personal property in the City | 290,753 85 |
| Tax not exceeding $4 for each scholar | 583,708 47 |
| Total | $1,300,000 00 |
| The appropriations of 1860 exceeded the fund | $20,095 48 |
| Leaving available for expenses for 1861 | $1,279,904 52 |
| Expenditures of 1861 amount to | $1,284,545 55 |
| Balance against the Board | $4,641 03 |
| Passed to the credit of general account | 3,012 01 |
| To be provided from fund of 1862 | $1,629 02 |
| In the year 1865, the Board was compelled to provide for a deficit of 1858 | $147,508 77 |
| In 1860, for a similar deficit for 1859 | 31,031 55 |
| In 1861, for deficit of 1860 | 20,095 48 |
| While the excess of the present year to be paid from the fund of 1862, is no more than | 1,629 02 |

The above report having been unanimously passed, was ordered to be printed.

A number of minor special reports were also passed, and several checks remaining uncalled for were ordered to be destroyed, and the amounts to be passed to the credit of the Board, as part of the general fund of 1862.

Mr. WADE, of the Sixth, offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Board are due and are hereby presented to WM. E. CURTIS, Esq., for the uniform courtesy, dignity and ability with which he has discharged the duties of President during the past year.

Mr. BENEDICT, in seconding the resolution, regarded it as by no means a mere empty form, but the sincere sentiment of the entire Board. Mr. WATERBURY and others handsomely sustained the resolution, which was adopted without a dissenting voice. The following neat acknowledgment and interesting statement of facts was then made by Mr. CURTIS:

ADDRESS OF MR. CURTIS.

GENTLEMEN: The close of the year admonishes us of the termination of our official duties. Under ordinary circumstances it becomes us to look back and see how we have administered the great and sacred trusts confided to us by the public, and the more especially at this time, when the energies and resources of the City are to such an extent employed in the struggle for our national existence.

The large increase of the number of persons taught during the past year, over that of the previous year, shows that our system continues to gain the popular confidence and favor.

The whole number taught in 1861 is 155,004; in 1860 it was 145,870. The average attendance in 1861 is 61,145; in 1860 it was 55,050. The average cost per scholar in 1861 is less than in 1860; while the average cost to the City for the books, stationery, apparatus, fuel and all other supplies furnished in 1861 to each scholar is but 46 cents—while in 1857 it was 60 cents. The cost of the evening schools, which in 1860 exceeded $73,000, will not this year exceed $46,000.

During this year there has been set aside for a Library fund the sum of $9,983 65, which has heretofore been expended for general purposes. Three new and very valuable school edifices have been completed, and four others have been rebuilt and enlarged. The whole amount of money available in 1861 was $1,279,904 52. The deficit of 1856 of $147,508 77 was reduced in 1859 to $31,031 55, and was again reduced in 1860 to $20,095 48, and in the present year it is reduced to $392 01.

It is but just to say that the expenses incurred in purchasing lots and erecting school buildings, which the rapid increase of attendance in the schools has rendered necessary, are in reality but investments of the public funds in real estate, which will always remain of value, and the title to which is in the City.

In continuation, gentlemen, it can but be our hope that Providence will continue to preserve to us the means of doing good to the youth of our great City; and we cannot forget that there is not a loyal camp in the land, over which to-night cold December wind is breathing, where there is not some brave young heart beating with the lessons of intelligence and patriotism taught in the Public Schools or the Free Academy of New-York."

Resolutions of thanks to DANIEL COGER Esq., Chairman of the Committee on Repairs, proffered on motion of Mr. WATERBURY, and similar expressions to Mr. TWEED, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the Clerks of the Board for faithful and efficient discharge of duty, having unanimously passed, at 7:40 P. M., the Board adjourned.

### Personal.

List of Americans registered at GUN & Co.'s American Agency and Reading-room, No. 10 Strand, London, W. E., England, for the week ending Dec. 14, 1861:

W. I. Stillman, Belmont, Mass., U. S. Consul to Rome.

*New-York*—W. H. Vinman, S. L. Ingraham, J. C. Worter, S. Richardson, H. Seton, S. Gosling and wife, L. Gosling, H. Watkins, John O. Bronson, M. D.; Hon. and Miss T. Weed, Troy.

*Pennsylvania*—W. L. Welsh, A. G. Goodsall, W. L. Wilmer, Philadelphia.

*Massachusetts*—J. Ritchie, G. Roxby, E. A. Raymond, Boston.

*Ohio*—A. Endres, C. P. McIlvaine, Cincinnati.
Rev. G. W. Bosworth, Portland, Me.
E. Harding, Burlington, Vt.
W. W. Snyder, Brookville, Ind.
Robert Mure, Charleston.

## MONETARY AFFAIRS.

**Sales at the Stock Exchange....Dec. 30, 1861.**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $10,000 | U. S. 6s, '81. Cou | 92 | 100 | Harlem R. Pref. | b10 30 |
| 5,000 | U. S. 5s, '74. Cou | 81¾ | 525 | do | 30 |
| 5,000 | Mich. St. 6s | 80¾ | 100 | do | s10 30 |
| 5,000 | Va. St. 6s | 48 | 50 | do | 30¼ |
| 4,000 | N. Car. St. 6s | 49½ | 100 | do | 30½ |
| 5,000 | Mo. St. 6s | b30 42 | 675 | Mich. Central R. | 50 |
| 8,000 | do | 41¾ | 250 | do | 50¼ |
| 6,000 | do | s10 42 | 100 | do | b30 50¾ |
| 3,000 | do | 42¾ | 50 | do | b30 50¾ |
| 10,000 | Erie R. 4th m. b. | 76 | 100 | do | b60 50½ |
| 20 | Amer. Ex. Bank | 80 | 50 | do | 50¾ |
| 268 | Del. & Hud. Cn. Co | 94 | 225 | Mich. So. & N. I. R. | 19¾ |
| 470 | Pac. Mail S. Co | 94 | 200 | do | 19¾ |
| 550 | do | 95 | 250 | do | b10 19¾ |
| 10 | do | 95¼ | 50 | do | 19¾ |
| 150 | do | s30 95½ | 50 | do | s10 19¾ |
| 221 | do | 95½ | 50 | Mich. S. & N. I. G. S. | 40¾ |
| 50 | do | b4 95½ | 800 | do | 41 |
| 200 | N. Y. Central R. | 80¾ | 50 | do | s10 41 |
| 25 | do | 80¾ | 100 | do | b10 41 |
| 100 | do | s10 80¾ | 30 | Panama R. ex div. | 113½ |
| 350 | do | 80¾ | 120 | do | 114 |
| 200 | do | b10 80¾ | 50 | do | b30 114 |
| 100 | do | b30 80¾ | 20 | Ill. Cen. R. Scrip | 61¾ |
| 750 | do | 80¾ | 300 | do | 62 |
| 35 | do | 80¾ | 20 | Clev. & Pitts. R. | 16¾ |
| 100 | do | s10 80¾ | 29 | do | 16¾ |
| 50 | do | s30 80¾ | 300 | do | 17 |
| 100 | Erie R. Pref. | 56 | 100 | Gal. & Chic. R. | 66 |
| 400 | do | 55¾ | 300 | do | 66¾ |
| 250 | do | b10 56 | 100 | do | b70 66¾ |
| 50 | do | b10 55¾ | 150 | Clev. & Tol. R. | 36 |
| 300 | do | b10 55¾ | 200 | do | b90 35¾ |
| 50 | do | 55¾ | 300 | do | 35¾ |
| 50 | do | 55¾ | 500 | do | b10 35¾ |
| 650 | Erie Railway | 32¾ | 1060 | do | 35¾ |
| 1125 | do | 32¾ | 300 | do | s10 35 |
| 300 | do | and 1 b10 32½ | 50 | do | b30 35¾ |
| 50 | do | b30 32½ | 100 | do | b30 35¾ |
| 50 | do | b15 32½ | 500 | do | s10 35¾ |
| 50 | do | s30 32 | 200 | do | b15 35¾ |
| 412 | do | 32¾ | 150 | Chi. & Rk. I. R. | 51 |
| 250 | do | 32¾ | 100 | do | b15 51 |
| 100 | do | b30 32¾ | 50 | do | b10 51 |
| 150 | do | 32¾ | 100 | do | 50¾ |
| 100 | do | b30 32¾ | 50 | do | 50¾ |
| 100 | do | b30 32¾ | 100 | do | b10 50¾ |
| 200 | H. R. Railroad | 39 | 400 | do | 50¾ |
| 200 | do | b10 39 | 50 | do | b30 50¾ |
| 100 | do | s10 38¾ | 235 | do | b3 50¾ |
| 150 | do | 38¾ | 100 | do | s10 50¾ |
| 510 | do | 38¾ | 50 | do | b60 51 |
| 100 | Harlem Railroad | c 12¾ | 50 | C., Bur. & Q. R. | b15 57 |
| 500 | do | 12¾ | 70 | do | 57¾ |
| 100 | Mil. & Pr. Du C. R. | 20 | 20 | do | 56 |
| 10 | M. & P. Du C. 2d pref | 37 | | | |

**SECOND BOARD.**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $5,000 | U. S. 6s, '81. Reg | 88 | 775 | N. Y. Central R. | 80 |
| 13,000 | Ten. State 6s, '90. | 43¾ | 200 | Harlem R. | 12¾ |
| 4,000 | Missouri State 6s | 43¾ | 100 | do | 12¾ |
| 2,000 | do | 42¾ | 50 | do | 12¾ |
| 5,000 | Mo. 6s, 1st to H. & St. Joseph R. | 45 | 100 | Harlem R. Pref. | b60 31 |
| 4,000 | Cal. State 7s | 81½ | 50 | do | 30¾ |
| 1,000 | Ohio St. 6s, '86 | 88 | 50 | Mich. Central R. | 49¾ |
| 2,000 | Min. St. 8 ₱ c. bs | 75 | 100 | do | 49¾ |
| 1,000 | Erie R. 4th m. b. | 76 | 20 | Mil. & Pra. Du Chad P | 87 |
| 3,000 | do | 75¾ | 100 | M. S. & N. I. G. Stk | 41¾ |
| 145 | Pac. Mail Stp. Co | 94 | 250 | do | 41¾ |
| 25 | do | s10 94 | 100 | do | s30 41¾ |
| 50 | do | s30 94 | 50 | Panama R. ex div | 113 |
| 100 | do | b30 94¾ | 25 | do | 112¾ |
| 850 | Erie Railway | 32 | 150 | Ill. Cen. R. scrip | b10 62 |
| 200 | do | b30 32¾ | 100 | do | b30 62¾ |
| 200 | do | b60 32¾ | 25 | do | 63 |
| 50 | Erie Railway Pref. | 54¾ | 200 | Clev. & Tol. R. | 36¼ |
| 50 | do | 54¾ | 200 | do | b10 36¾ |
| 50 | do | 54¾ | 200 | do | 36¾ |
| 50 | do | b30 54¾ | 200 | do | 37¾ |
| 310 | do | 54 | 100 | Chi. & R. I. R. | 50¾ |
| 150 | Hudson River R. | 38¾ | 200 | Chic. B. & Q. R. | 86 |
| 5 | do | 39 | 50 | do | b30 86¾ |

MONDAY, Dec. 30—P. M.

The Weekly Averages of the Banks of the City of New-York, on Saturday, Dec. 28, 1861, present in the aggregate the following changes from the previous exhibit of Dec. 21:

| | |
|---|---|
| Decrease in Loans | $1,027,912 |
| Decrease in Specie | 7,455,657 |
| Decrease in Circulation | 119,808 |
| Decrease in Undrawn Deposits | 8,426,803 |

Including the Clearing-house operations of the week, which show the inter-exchanges between the Banks, and including also the Sub-Treasury Specie Average of the week, the following is the general comparison with the previous exhibit, and also with the movement this time last season:

| | Dec. 28, 1860. | Dec. 21, 1861. | Dec. 28, 1861. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Capital | $69,158,000 | $69,050,000 | $69,050,000 |
| Loans | 131,316,258 | 155,784,280 | 154,756,318 |
| Specie | 23,275,058 | 36,813,369 | 29,357,712 |
| Circulation | 8,287,582 | 8,559,361 | 8,439,463 |
| Gross Deposits | 106,452,616 | 145,781,924 | 134,701,438 |
| Exchanged | 19,287,022 | 20,884,390 | 18,229,517 |
| Undrawn | 87,165,594 | 124,897,534 | 116,471,921 |
| In Sub-Treasury | 2,222,167 | 4,494,793 | 3,805,550 |

The public interest in the Bank return is much diminished *by the general suspension of Specie payments* announced in this morning's paper. While the average of Specie on the present return is reported $29,357,000, the actual amount in Bank on the opening of business this morning is understood to be $23,319,000, or about six millions below the average. The policy of suspension agreed upon on Saturday night is concurred in by the outside public to-day with the greatest unanimity. The previous indifference to the mere empty honor of the Specie basis, in the face of the large prospective wants of the Government and the favorable condition of the actual balance of trade with Europe, rendered the change much easier than the nervousness of some of our Bank Officers might have presupposed. The transition is made not without the momentary unsettling of the market value of Gold and the rates of Foreign Exchange, but without the slightest apprehension that the difference will be seriously felt or substantially recognized a week hence. The quotations for Gold over current funds to-day is variously quoted from 100¼ to 101¼ ₱ cent., and Exchange on London 112@112½ ₱ cent.; but the positive settlements in either case are so few as to render these figures next to nominal. The Bullion Brokers were unwilling to name a price at which they would purchase American Gold Coin, and the Banking houses engaged in the Foreign Exchanges did but very little business at or within the quotation just named for Bills on London. A rumor obtained early in the day that a few of the Banks were not in accord with the general suspension. But this, if true, amounts to nothing more than a factitious attempt to gain a little extra credit, *at a very small cost*. As we understand the *dodge*, it is simply a recognition of the right of individual depositors to draw for their balances, as they stood at the close of business on Saturday, in Gold, if they desire it. No Bank in the City, as far as we are advised, is refusing, to-day, to conduct their engagements with depositers in Current Funds, that is by receiving certified checks or the circulating notes of other City Banks in account, to be repaid in kind. Nor are we advised that any of the large Banks refure Gold on checks drawn against deposits made up to Saturday last, where the necessities or convenience of the depositor requires Gold instead of Current Funds. This test has not yet been applied in a sufficient number of instances to authorize us to speak positively as to the rule to be observed, but sufficient has transpired to know that the difference is not likely to amount to a rate sufficient to make the rate worth discussing before the public.

The Government is understood to have virtually suspended Specie payments with the Banks; the latter holding an aggregate balance of $21,000,000 to the credit of the Treasury, of which they propose to pay in a sufficient sum to-morrow to enable the Assistant Treasurer in New-York to pay the January interest on the Public Debt in Gold, if demanded. The Circulating Notes of the United States were employed to-day in current payments on the checks of the various disbursing officers of the Government. The operation was conducted with mutual good will and with every sign of entire confidence in the credit of these Circulating Notes. The result is that the Specie balance is almost the same at the close of the day as on Saturday night. Some few of the Banks have manifested less liberality than the public in reference to the currency of United States Notes. The Bank of America, on whose books there is an undrawn balance of about $920,000, to the credit of the Treasury, sent down a Notary this afternoon to demand $80,000 in gold, on checks and drafts drawn upon the Sub-Treasury. The demand was not persevered in, and no protest was entered, for the sufficient reason that the scandal of the transaction would have more than counterbalanced the miserable pittance growing out of the difference between $80,000 in gold, and $80,000 United States Notes, which the Bank is at liberty to set off against a corresponding sum to the credit of the Government on its own books. Another instance is mentioned of the refusal of the American Exchange Bank, on whose books the Treasury of the United States stands creditor to the amount of about $1,525,000, to receive the Circulating Notes of the United States as current funds. The President of this non-dividend paying concern has recently issued one or more pamphlets against the credit of the Government, claiming in his last manifesto, "indemnity for the past and security for the future," before granting further countenance from his Bank and its associates in the Clearing-house in the negotiation of the Public Loans. This course of conduct carries its own comment. The practical inference is that if the Bank in question will pay in Gold its own solemn undertaking to the Government, the latter would probably be able to redeem in Gold all the United States Notes that the Bank is likely to receive on deposit in the course of its ordinary business for some time to come. Aside from the foregoing cases, we hear of no factious opposition to our National currency, which, from its convertibility in the 7.30 ₱ cent. Treasury Bonds of the Government, or into a 6 ₱ cent. Funded Stock, ought to be esteemed as at least equivalent to the unsecured deposits now resting under a general suspension of Specie payments in our City Banks.

The January Interest on the Public Debt of the United States will assuredly be paid in Gold, if demanded. So also will be any other obligations on the Public Debt due to the Associated Banks or other parties, on the 31st December, provided the Banks make good their promise to protect these payments in the equivalent of Gold. The Manhattan Company, as the Agents of the State of New-York, will also, it is understood, pay the January interest, and such of the principal of the State Debt of New-York, in Gold or its equivalent. The State of New-York has yet to make the first default in the payment of Gold on its maturing obligations. As far back as 1837, a premium of 15 ₱ cent. was paid for Specie to redeem a State Debt then falling due "on or after 1857 at the option of the State."

The Suspension of the Banks, announced this morning, was received on the Stock Exchange as a relief to the anxiety which had been felt in regard to the course of the Money Market. The event was previously deemed as inevitable—as a question of a few days or weeks. Its occurrence before the Banks have exhausted their stock of Bullion by $23,000,000, and the belief that the public are measurably indifferent to the mere credit of maintaining a particular basis while the prospective wants of the Government are so enormous, caused an immediate average advance of *two per cent.* in prices. The excitement was quite marked at both sessions of the Board and large sales were made at each, partly in realization of profits, and partly from the calculation that the extreme advance might not be sustained. The printed list of sales, and the fluctuations between the First and Second Boards, show the course of the dealings through the day. Late in the afternoon the disposition was firmer than at the Second Board. The Railways were in high favor again, and the quotations at the very close about as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| New-York Central | 80¾ | Pacific | 94¼ |
| Erie | 32¾ | Panama | 112¾ |
| Erie Preferred | 54¾ | Illinois Central | 62 |
| Toledo | 35¾ | Missouris | 42¼ |
| Rock Island | 51¾ | U. S. 6s, 1881 | 92 |
| Mich. Guaranteed | 41¾ | Hudson | 39 |

There was little or nothing said on City Bank Shares to-day. The following bids were made for the Railway Mortgages, showing a very general improvement on Saturday's prices:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| N. Y. Cen. sixes | 91 | N. Ia. Goshen Line | 82 |
| N. Y. Cen. sevens, '64 | 99 | M. S. & N. Ind. s. f. | 80 |
| N. Y. Cen. sevens, '76 | 100¾ | Pac. R., guar'd by Mo. | 84 |
| Erie firsts, '68 | 103 | Ill.

# The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 1861.

### THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

Published in the TIMES Building, fronting the City Hal Park, on Park-row, Spruce and Nassau-streets.

The DAILY TIMES, published every morning and evening—price TWO CENTS; mailed at SIX DOLLARS a year; with Sunday edition, SEVEN DOLLARS per year.

The SEMI-WEEKLY, published Tuesdays and Fridays, THREE DOLLARS a year; two copies to one address for FIVE DOLLARS.

Any person who will send us a Club of FIVE subscribers may receive an extra copy for himself, or retain Two Dollars and a Half as his commission.

The WEEKLY, TWO DOLLARS a year; two copies THREE DOLLARS; five copies FIVE DOLLARS. Any person who will send us a Club of TEN subscribers at $1 each, shall receive an extra copy for himself, or may retain One Dollar as his compensation. The Semi-Weekly and Weekly sent to Clergymen at the lowest club rates. Specimen numbers forwarded on application.

TERMS—Cash invariably in advance.

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*TO CORRESPONDENTS.*

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*We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.*

*VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing important news, solicited from any quarter of the world; if used, will be liberally paid for.*


### Amusements this Evening.

WINTER GARDEN—LAKES OF KILLARNEY—PADDY'S BLUNDER—THE MAGIC JOKE.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—LITTLE TOM—ROBINSON CRUSOE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—PLAYING WITH FIRE.

NIBLO'S GARDEN—HERRMANN'S SOIREES DE PRESTIDIGITATION.

ADRIAN'S BOUDOIR DE PRESTIDIGITATIONS—No. 663 Broadway.

HOPE CHAPEL—CAPT. WILLIAMS' SOUTH SEA WHALING VOYAGE.

BOWERY THEATRE—GREAT NATIONAL CIRCUS.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM—LIVING HIPPOPOTAMUS, LIVING WHALE, &c., AT ALL HOURS—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES AT 3½ AND 7½ O'CLOCK.

THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD—No. 663 Broadway

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS—FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR—No. 543 Broadway.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

### THE REBELLION.

A dispatch from Boston, received yesterday morning, announced positively that MASON and SLIDELL were to go out in the *Niagara* to-day, that vessel having been detailed for the purpose of taking them by Lord LYONS, and that the *Persia*, now in the St. Lawrence, would come round to take the place of the *Niagara*, and sail on the regular day. Subsequent dispatches, however, threw doubt upon the statement, but it was still insisted that the *Niagara* would be in readiness to sail at noon to-day—the agents of the Cunard line in Boston expecting an order from Lord LYONS to take the Rebel Commissioners on board. Mr. CUNARD, of this City, however, insists that the *Niagara* will not leave until her regular day, and this is probably the case, as our Washington correspondent telegraphs that the rebel Commissioners are not likely to go before Wednesday of next week, the regular time of sailing. It has been decided, after consultation between Lord LYONS and Secretary SEWARD, that they will not go on board a British man-of-war.

An idea of the formidable character of the proposed Mississippi Expedition may be gathered from the letter of our correspondent giving a description of the gunboats, bomb-ketches, etc., which have been and are being constructed at St. Louis and other points for ther service. The number of gunboats to be used is twelve, of mortar-boats or bomb-ketches 38, and of tugs and steamboats 28—seventy-eight in all. The gunboats are absolutely shot-proof, having been proved to be so by actual experiment—and will carry a very heavy armament; and the mortar-boats are so constructed that they can be used for bridges, besides carrying each one of the heaviest mortars used in modern warfare, and being loop-holed for musketry. It is believed that no defences of the rebels can stand against this formidable armada.

Advices from Fortress Monroe are to Sunday. On that day a rebel tug-boat captured the schooner *Sherwood*, employed in the Quartermaster's department as a water-boat, being lined with zinc, and supplied with a valuable force-pump. The schooner was in tow of the steamer *Express*, which was unarmed, and cut loose when pursued by the rebel tug, which immediately seized the schooner and escaped with it to Craney Island. The rebel General HUGER has notified Gen. WOOL that he is ready to send down 240 National prisoners of war as soon as arrangements can be made at Fortress Monroe for their reception. The brig *Empire* left Old Point on Saturday for Port Royal, having on board a balloon for making reconnoissances in the vicinity of Beaufort.

A detachment of National troops made a descent upon Warsaw, Ky., a few days since, and captured four notorious rebels, among them a son of HUMPHREY MARSHALL.

The arrangement of the National forces in Western Virginia for the Winter is as follows: Gen. ROSECRANS and Staff at Wheeling; Col. PORSCHNER, Thirty-seventh Ohio, at Gauley Bridge; Gen. COX'S Brigade at Charleston, on the Kanawha; Gen. REYNOLDS, at Phillippa; Gen. MILROY, at Cheat Mountain; Col. FORD, Forty-second Ohio, at Elkwater; Col. Moss' Second Regiment, at Beverly; one regiment at Huttonsville.

The St. Louis *Democrat* publishes an unofficial statement of the amounts disbursed by the National Government in that State from April 23 to Dec. 14, inclusive. The aggregate is $18,052,991, and this probably does not cover the whole sum,

### CONGRESS YESTERDAY.

In the Senate, petitions were presented from New-York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, praying for the emancipation of the slaves. A communication was received from the Secretary of War, refusing to submit to the Senate the correspondence between Gens. SCOTT and PATTERSON. Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, introduced a bill, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee, declaring certain persons alien enemies, and sacrificing their property for the benefit of loyal persons. The Senate then adjourned until Thursday.

In the House, a resolution was adopted directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish to the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the alleged disloyalty of Government employes, certain information asked for. Mr. POTTER, the Chairman of the Committee, also asked for the passage of a resolution making a similar request of the Secretary of the Interior, but after some debate if was objected to, and was not received. A bill was reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, repealing certain laws creating ports of entry. Its consideration was postponed until the second Tuesday in February. A bill was introduced by Mr. SPAULDING, of New-York, which authorises the issue of Treasury notes payable on demand. It was referred to the Ways and Means Committee, and the House adjourned until Thursday.

### GENERAL NEWS.

A dispatch from San Francisco announces that the steamer of the 21st took out $1,170,000 in treasure, of which $270,000 was for England.

We have correspondence from Hong Kong to the 1st of November, giving a *résumé* of recent events in China. The formal evacuation of the City of Canton by the allied forces of France and England took place on the 21st of October, after an occupation of four years. The ceremonies on the occasion were conducted with much form, and a joint proclamation in anticipation of the event was issued by the Viceroy and the Tartar-General, remarkable for its courteous terms in regard to foreigners, whom the occupation has led the Chinese to entertain more respect for. The evacuation took place before the completion of the payment of the indemnity demanded by the Allies—a fact which caused great gratification among the Chinese. The civil war in the United States was having a depressing effect upon American shipping interests in China, but, notwithstanding this fact, American enterprise was opening up a new field of trade in the country watered by the Yangtsze River, upon which arrangements were being made to run steamers similar to those used upon our Western rivers. Mr. BURLINGAME, our new Minister to China, had arrived, and entered upon his duties.

The banks of Boston, Philadelphia and Albany, following the example set by those of New-York suspended specie payments yesterday. The measure creates no excitement whatever.

The Board of Supervisors held the last meeting for 1861 yesterday afternoon, and, as it was the briefest, it was the most important session of the year. One or two bills were audited, and the Board, after a session of about fifteen minutes, adjourned until Monday, when it will be reorganized by the election of a new President, and as the Republicans have had that office for two years, a Democrat will be the successor of Mr. STEWART. The present courteous and capable corps of clerks will undoubtedly be retained.

The Board of Education also held its last meeting for 1861, yesterday evening. The financial statement for the year was very satisfactory, and, after a vote of thanks to the President and to the Chairmen of the Finance and other Committees, the Board, after nearly three hours' session, adjourned.

The Board of Aldermen, last evening, at the request of A. V. STOUT, the Commissioner appointed to superintend the soldiers' allotment fund, extended the time in which he was required to report the expenses attending the discharge of his trust, to the 1st of March, 1862—the reason for the extension being that additional legislation is required by Congress before the system can be properly carried out in this City. The Comptroller transmitted his weekly statement, from which it appears that the receipts into the City Treasury during the past week were $228,849 31; payments, $260,421 88; balance in the Treasury Dec. 28, $3,366,073 54.

The Board of Councilmen met pursuant to adjournment, and received a communication from the Corporation Counsel, stating that on account of illness he was unable to give an opinion as to the legality of the injunction in the mattor of the Fort Gansevoort property, which will be argued this day. An injunction was served prohibiting any action in the matter of the New-York and Yonkers Railroad, which outside parties said it was contemplated to act upon during the evening. Throughout the session there was a very large lobby attendance, and so much noise and confusion that at times it was almost impossible to transact any business. The sum of $250 each was awarded to nine clerks and employes of the Board, after a protracted discussion, and the voting down of numerous amendments. The Board adjourned until this day, at 3 P. M.

The Chicago *Tribune* states that rebel agents, a short time ago, applied to a lithographic artist in that city to print $5,000,000 of Confederate bonds. He set detectives on their track, and the rascals vanished.

It is rumored that Gen. SMITH, who is in command at Paducah, Ky., is to be removed, that his place may be filled by an officer who will adopt more energetic measures with rebel sympathizers.

The General Term of the Supreme Court have rendered an opinion in a case of considerable importance, respecting the character of the articles required by the act of 1855 to be deposited in the safes of hotels by guests. The decision is in the case of GILES against LIBBY & WHITNEY—the action being brought to make the defendants responsible for the loss of certain articles by the plaintiff, while a guest of their hotel.

The suspension of Specie payments yesterday morning, under the general order of the Associated Banks in the Clearing-house passed on Saturday night, caused an average rise in the Stock Market of 2 ₩ cent. The market value of Gold was unsettled, but quoted at the close of the day 100½@101 ₩ cent. Exchange, 112 on London, nominal.

An active export inquiry prevailed for flour, yesterday, and prices advanced 5c.@15c. ₩ bbl. Wheat and Corn were also quoted higher, but were quiet. Cotton and Resin attracted more attention and were firmer. A fair business was transacted in Bacon, Lard, Beef, Tallow, Spices and Whisky. Pork was dull and heavy. Groceries were sparingly purchased. The principal freight engagements were for British ports, especially Liverpool.

### The Escape of Two Traitors.

Our people have felt that MASON and SLIDELL were among those upon whom lies most of the guilt of this wicked rebellion, and their surrender produces something of that same feeling which we all have when a notorious villain escapes from the clutches of the law by reason of a flaw in the indictment. But there are several things in the case which will offset that unpleasant feeling. We must remember that they are not the only ones who deserve punishment. There are many other leaders of the rebellion, who deserve it as much as these two, and, if we succeed in bringing the penalties of the law upon them, we may be well satisfied to have these two punished only by banishment; and there is no doubt that nothing would have assisted the whole rebellious crew so much in their endeavors to escape those penalties, as a war between ourselves and England.

Moreover, if that war had led to the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, and its successful establishment among the nations of the earth, and the consequent escape of the leaders from the penalties of treason, that very fact would have saved MASON and SLIDELL also from any punishment except their captivity, if for no other reason than the difficulty of getting the fingers of the law upon them. The forms of law would have been an insuperable obstacle to their trial even. It is true that a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, and that we must catch our hare before we can cook him—but it seems clear to us that the prospects of bringing the weight of the law upon the rest of the leaders of the rebellion are much increased by the departure of these two, and that as to the chance of punishing those two we have not lost much.

For there can be no doubt that the prospects of a war between us and England, was a source of comfort and encouragement to all Secessiondom. We see this in the universal howl which went up from all the Southern papers, which with one breath called us cowards if we did give these men up, and with the next drew pleasant pictures of the effect the accession of the English navy to their warring forces would have upon the conflict everywhere. We see it also in the strenuous efforts of their sympathizers at the North, to precipitate us into such a war; in the sudden and loud-mouthed patriotism of the VALLANDIGHAMS and such gentry, who, seeing no dishonor at all in the treason and theft, and fraud and rebellion of the past year, could yet see intense national disgrace awaiting us if we, having already upon our hands the most gigantic rebellion which the world ever saw, declined to take up a war with the greatest Power in the world upon a point on which the Powers of Europe were almost unitedly against us, and drew their strongest arguments against us from our own past history. We are confident that the news that the Administration has surrendered these two men will send a cold chill over the rebel leaders, especially when they see how idle were the prophecies of Mr. FAULKNER and others, that the Administration would not dare to give them up for fear of being itself overthrown by the mob.

And in this very point also is there a drop of sweet for which it were well worth while to take some bitter. We shall show to the world a proof of the strength of our Government, and of the prudence of the people and their reliance upon their rulers, which must greatly amaze those who have thought that a Republican Government was weak, that the American people were carried away by a frenzy of passion, and that the Administration was governed by mob influence. We shall point to it ever with pride. It is no easy thing for a nation thus to turn at the voice of its rulers. We have been rejoicing in the capture of two traitors; we have been strengthening ourselves against the tempest of objurgation and threats which came to us across the ocean; our feelings of old hostility to England, and of hatred to rebellion—our unwillingness to be driven into anything, and our confidence in our own powers, all acted upon the nation, urging us all to say, "Hold these men at all hazards." But as we read the letter of Mr. SEWARD, as we think upon the circumstances of the case, we put down those strong swellings of passion, and yield without a murmur to the voice of reason, which tells us this is the wiser, better way.

We congratulate the Nation that it has an Administration which yields not its judgment to popular desire, and which has wisdom enough to know that passion is an unsafe guide, and single-heartedness and honesty of purpose enough to carry out its best judgments, even against the current of the people's wishes. And we congratulate the people that they have shown such reliance upon their rulers, and such self-control. It is out of such soil that victory and future glory shall spring, in comparison with which the present disappointment shall be as nothing.

### International Law and the Case of the Trent.

In the present confused and uncertain state of international law, it was impossible that naval hostilities should be carried on by a Power having such extensive commercial relations as the United States, without the occurrence of some vexatious complications between ourselves and neutral nations. In the adjustment of any such cases as may hereafter occur, we trust that the friendly forbearance, enlightened policy and wise statesmanship of neutral Governments will be as conspicuous as have been displayed by our own Government in the surrender of MASON and SLIDELL. The able paper of Mr. SEWARD, which we published yesterday, will be as satisfactory to the public as it is in harmony with the progressive principles of neutral rights for which FRANKLIN, ADAMS, JEFFERSON, MADISON, CLAY, and all our great statesmen have invariably contended.

To prevent, as far as possible, future causes of international irritation, and to secure for ourselves the full advantages of the adjustment of the *Trent* difficulty, it is, however, necessary that certain amendments of the existing maritime law shall be at once formally adopted. For this object the present moment is every way favorable. Great Britain, as is well known, has always been a determined advocate for the largest possible extension of belligerent rights. Her present championship of the opposite principle has drawn her away from her traditional policy, and has attracted to her side the hearty sympathy of France, and of the other great Continental Powers of Europe. This was to be expected; for these Governments, with our own, have always aimed to curtail oppressive belligerent usages, and to release the commerce of neutrals from vexatious and irritating interference. But our united efforts have till now been resisted by the whole force of England, who claimed to possess certain proscriptive rights, as the ruler of the seas. Indeed, the history of maritime law during the past century and a half, is a record of these conflicting claims of Great Britain on the one side, and of the other Powers of Europe, aided by the United States, on the other. And as we now for the first time find England espousing the cause of neutral rights, and committed to the advocacy of certain principles to which she has hitherto been hostile, it is in the highest degree desirable to make the most of an opportunity which may not soon occur again.

Several momentous questions of maritime law have been raised in the discussion of the *Trent* case, which will, it is hoped, by the action of an International Congress, or by special treaties with the various Powers of Europe, be set at rest forever. Should this result be achieved, it will be of immense value to this country, and the peaceful negotiations of 1862 will contribute even more than the war of 1812 to the growth of our commerce and the development of our national prosperity. Prominent among the questions which invite such international action as we have suggested, is that of contraband of war. No better proof is needed of the obscurity which has hitherto surrounded this question, than may be obtained from the dispatches of Messrs. SEWARD and THOUVENEL, which appeared side by side in our columns yesterday. From a comparison of those documents it will be seen that while the American and British authorities attach a contraband character, under special circumstances, to civilians, the French Government assumes that the civil servants of a belligerent Power are never contraband, though the military officers and forces of such a Power are so. Now, as the precise conditions under which persons, whether civil or military, acquire a contraband character are thus seen to be uncertain, and as different nations hold conflicting views on this important subject, it is obviously desirable, for the prevention of future complications, that an exact definition should be mutually agreed upon, and should be embodied in treaties or protocols under the authority of the Governments of this country and of Europe.

Besides the question of contraband as applied to persons and to merchandise, there are other equally important points which claim attention. There is, for instance, the belligerent right of visit and search, which has always been a fruitful source of international trouble, and needs to be regulated by new and more satisfactory rules. Connected with this is the obligation to take every captured vessel into port for adjudication, which has not always been insisted on, though our Government, as Mr. SEWARD properly claims, has always contended that it is indispensable to the legality of the capture. This rule, we believe, has never been authoritatively affirmed, and it is certain that in searching our vessels and impressing our sailors, Great Britain formerly violated it most flagrantly and in very numerous instances. Another point requiring attention is the privilege of refitting belligerent vessels in neutral ports. France and some other nations have established by law certain municipal regulations, which place this privilege under a certain degree of control. But in England and elsewhere there is no such established and permanent rule. It could not be a difficult matter for all the Great Powers to agree upon some definite united action on these and other points, in which all commercial nations are so deeply interested. We do not wish, however, to discuss these several questions in this place. We would only suggest the propriety of holding an international Congress or of concluding special treaties with the various Powers of Europe, in which the uncertain and vexed claims of maritime law may be so completely settled as to prevent, if possible, the danger of any misunderstanding between ourselves and those Powers of Europe with whom it is both our highest interest and our established policy to live on terms of perfect friendship and national comity.

### England and the United States.

We have settled one controversy with England, which, if left unsettled, would have inevitably led to war. We believe we have settled it with perfect honor to ourselves, and in a manner which will disarm England of whatever bitterness the act out of which it grew may have inspired. We trust we shall not deprive this settlement of all its value, and our own conduct of all merit, by any such unmanly resentment as is embodied in the comments of the Philadelphia *North American*, from which the following is an extract:

"It is not too much to say that the announcement of the decision of the Government in regard to the *Trent* affair has been received by the public with profound and unprecedented regret, mingled not only with indignation, but with extreme bitterness toward England. It is technically settled, *but a shadow will lie on the heart of every patriot until legitimate opportunity shall offer to avenge the insulted sensibilities of a people not used to humiliation through legal tricks, and through pretences just within the law.*"

We should not like to think that any considerable portion of the American people are in the frame of mind reflected in this paragraph; or that, if they are, it is other than a transient feeling, founded on an imperfect appreciation of the motive that has controlled the Government, in its action, and hence sure to pass away under the calm light of a fuller knowledge. It would be saying little for the moral sense of Americans to place them before the world in so pitiable an attitude. We have yet to see that the United States is in that deplorable state of decadence that we need to palter in a double sense, and shuffle out of an act of duty with the air of a cowed bully.

We have no right to hold such an attitude toward England, and if the spirit that our present concession needs to be balanced by future revenge should be generally diffused, it would inevitably bring on hostilities. There is no doubt that, while the war lasts, there will constantly arise cases of collision and disagreement between us and England. This is inevitable, so long as the two foremost commercial nations of the world hold toward each other the relation of belligerent and neutral, with their complex and conflicting interests, duties and rights. If, in such circumstances, "insulted sensibilities" go in search of a "legitimate opportunity of revenge," undoubtedly nothing will be more easy than to find it. But this is not the spirit which should animate a wise people in a great crisis. On the contrary, we will have ne[illegible] most forbearance, prudence and [illegible]

We shall be seconded in th[illegible] by the disposition which the attitude [illegible] the United States is calculated to call out in England. For we greatly err if the course of the American Government and people does not produce a powerful reaction in English opinion. They are of a stock to be moved by an act like this. They must feel that they have not done us justice; and a thousand prejudices will be consumed in the sympathetic heat which this act of moral courage and magnanimity must inspire. But if we have a right to demand that they be not inattentive to what Secretary SEWARD graphically styles "the currents that seem to be bringing the two countries into collision," we are bound to meet them in the same temper. It becomes us to remember that neutral commercial nations are always serious sufferers from a protracted war, and that nothing, therefore, is more natural or excusable than impatience and jealous sensibility on their part at its continuance. It is our interest as much as theirs to mitigate its severities so far as they fall upon them, and to deal with their complaints in a spirit of moderation and of anxious justice.

MASON AND SLIDELL—VALE!—It is generally surmised that those two interesting worthies, MASON and SLIDELL—whose names we have had occasion to write so frequently of late—leave Boston, to-day, to resume that jaunt to Europe which Capt. WILKES cut short six weeks ago. There is evidently an intent to mystify the public as to their departure, however, for it is affirmed and denied, and denied and affirmed again. Perhaps it would not do to break the news too suddenly to the Bostonians, and make them utterly inconsolable at the loss. The rest of the country, however, ardently hope that the riddance may be as speedy as possible, and sincerely pray that they may not be drowned *in transitu*—to the end that the other half of the proverb may at some future day be illustrated in their persons.

There is one class of persons who will bitterly mourn the departure of MASON and SLIDELL—the rebel leaders at Richmond, who would a thousand times rather have them as "Ambassadors" to Fort Warren, with the prospect of trouble between the United States and England in consequence, than at the posts to which they were accredited. As everybody knows how profoundly JEFF. DAVIS and his crew will be chagrined at the upshot of the matter, and as everybody is prepared to hear a howl of hypocritical taunting from their journals, it will, on the whole, be a very capital joke. But six weeks have passed since their journey to Europe was interrupted; they now resume it, but they go to Europe totally different men. They are rendered perfectly harmless. For the case they have raised has defined American policy in Europe, and when Mr. SEWARD'S dispatch reaches the other side they will have done more to extinguish the rebel hopes of foreign recognition, and to raise the cause of the Union in England and France, than any or all influences together. The teeth of the serpents have been drawn, the wings of the birds have been clipped, and they are, on the whole, damaged dry goods. A kind of theoretical interest will attach to them as to persons identified with a *cause célèbre*. And as the "Ambassadors" flit uneasily around the outer doors of St. James and the Tuileries, individuals of an antiquarian turn of mind will point to them as MASON and SLIDELL of the *Trent*.

### How It Was Done—Splendid Zampillaerostation.

The public is naturally curious to know by what fortunate combination of prudence and sagacity we have avoided the perils in which the affair of the *Trent* seemed likely to involve us, and have escaped a war with England. They are not long left in doubt. Our modest neighbor, the *Herald*, tells the world all about it. The result is due to the fact that we had at the head of political affairs a remarkably cool statesman, and at the head of the newspaper press a remarkably cool editor. Of both these facts there can be no doubt. "The American Government and the American Press, *particularly the New-York Herald*," (says the *Herald* of yesterday,) "are guided by lofty principles of statesmanship, the strictest rules of international law, and a due regard to the requirements of justice and humanity. Had *Mr. Seward and the Herald*," the *Herald* adds, "followed the inclinations of the mob, Earl RUSSELL'S demand would have been replied to with defiance, and war would have now existed between England and the United States." Fortunately for the world, "Mr. SEWARD and the *Herald*" *did not* "follow the inclinations of the mob." "On the first receipt of the news of the arrest of the *Trent*," says the *Herald*, "we said if the proceeding should turn out to be irregular, and contrary to international law, of which there was some doubt, it would be the duty as well as the interest of our Government *to make an apology and give up the traitors*."

So in another article the *Herald* says:

"In taking the ground, therefore, in advance of any positive knowledge of the state of the case at Washington, that our Government, if required, *would and should deliver back Mason and Slidell to the protection of the British flag*, we claim that the NEW YORK HERALD has done more than all the other public journals of the country put together in preparing the public mind for a cordial acquiescence in the settlement which has been made."

That's the way it was done! It was the pacific tone of the *Herald* which prepared the public mind for the surrender of MASON and SLIDELL. It was the prompt sagacity and early advice of that journal which led the Government to venture upon that bold and happy expedient.

If anybody doubts the *Herald's* assertion on the subject, (and it is a lamentable fact that there are men skeptical enough to indulge such doubts,) let him read the following extracts from its columns and forever after hold his peace:

HERALD VIEWS BEFORE THE BRITISH DEMANDS ARE KNOWN.

*From the Herald, Nov. 18.*

* * According to this doctrine recognized by the great public writers on international law, the commander of the *San Jacinto committed no international offence* by overhauling the British steamer *Trent*.

* * * * *Whatever may be the consequences we trust our Government will hold the two arch-conspirators against the Union till they reap the due reward of their conduct.*

*From the Herald, Nov. 19.*

* * *The masses of the people are jubilant over the arrest, on board of a British vessel, of Messrs. Mason and Slidell.* The idea of a war with Great Britain alarms no one, but is *rather spoken of with complacency than otherwise.* * * * *The President, in his Message, should call at once for 500,000 more men and appropriations to build, as rapidly as possible, several hundred vessels of war.*

*From the Herald, Nov. 21.*

MR. SEWARD can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the civilized world, *that the Administration have acted properly* in committing the two traitors to Fort Warren, *and will be justified in keeping them there.*

*From the Herald, Nov. 22.*

The *Tribune* assails the Secretary of State and the *World* attacks the *Herald* on the same ground—that is to say that *Mr. Seward and this journal* are provoking a war with Great Britain because *we are both* seeking to vindicate the United States as a nation, and would prefer a war with her *rather than to make an abject surrender of these rights at her dictation.*

*From the Herald, Dec. 6.*

The point of this letter, (Secretary WELLES on the *Trent* affair,) which deserves especial notice, is *its remarks upon the legality of the seizure.* While some of our thin-skinned journalists have been consulting writers upon international law, and laboring desperately to prove that white is white, Secretary WELLES accepts the fact as indisputable, and assures the gallant Captain that *while he did his duty in arresting* MASON and SLIDELL, he should *also* have seized the vessel which had these public enemies on board, and reminds him that the forbearance excusable in this instance must not be permitted to constitute a precedent hereafter for infractions of neutral obligations. *This is the correct common-sense view of the case, and indeed,* SO OBVIOUS WAS THE JUSTICE AND LEGALITY OF CAPT. WILKES' ACT *that the President regards it as a commonplace police arrest and does not think it worthy of men tion in his message. The idea of England causing any trouble about the matter is ridiculous.*

*From the Herald, Dec. 10.*

If the British Government feel any disposition to quarrel with this country, *they will be unable to find a sufficient pretext in the action of Capt. Wilkes.* * * *But we have ample guarantees for England's good behavior. Canada is within a little more than two days' railway ride of half a million of armed men, and has a frontier that can offer no resistance to the march of an invading force from the United States.*

*From the Herald, Dec. 14.*

The event will doubtless be the cause of a *good deal of chuckling* on the part of the other Powers of Europe, and the satisfaction of the ever-jealous French Government, particularly, *will be clearly indicated by the Press of the country.* The act of Capt. WILKES will constitute AN IMPORTANT PRECEDENT *in favor of the right of search by the public ships of all nations, and lead to its more general practice than hitherto.*

HERALD VIEWS AFTER THE BRITISH DEMAND WAS KNOWN.

*From the Herald, Dec. 16.*

If England is determined, in spite of her own code and long practice, to make demands upon this Government such as indicated in the London *Observer*, she must, of course, assume all the responsibilities of a war. *It will not, probably, enter the mind of a single American for a moment,* even after reading the news in our columns to-day, that *Mason and Slidell will be surrendered to the English Government.*

*From the Herald, Dec. 17, (Washington Dispatch.)*

Whatever the demands from England may be, our Government HAVE RESOLVED *that Mason and Slidell* SHALL NEVER BE GIVEN UP. *This may be relied upon as a fixed fact.*

*From the same paper, (editorial)*

In any event, the surrender of those notorious traitors, MASON and SLIDELL, into the hands of England, IS ABSOLUTELY OUT OF THE QUESTION. *It is difficult to believe that England will disgrace herself by a demand so utterly impossible of fulfillment as this.*

That is enough. If anybody doubts now that Mr. SEWARD acted on the *Herald's* advice in surrendering this brace of traitors, or that we owe the preservation of the public peace to the *Herald's* efforts, it is scarcely worth while to attempt to convince him. The country is under very great obligations to "Mr. SEWARD and the *Herald*."

A WORD FOR THE TIMES CORRESPONDENT.—RUSSELL, of the London *Times*, must be getting bilious. His digestion is out of order, or else his head is a little turned by the novel circumstances in which he finds himself obliged to write. He deals a good deal too much for his own reputation in political prophecy. He predicted three weeks ago that, if MASON and SLIDELL were surrendered, our Government would be *dissolved*. The "mob" would not stand it. He has seen them given up, and has yet to hear the first word of hostile protest from his dreaded "mob." He is now predicting "civil war" from the Abolitionists. The harangues of our Abolition lecturers,—the presentation of a sword to FREMONT, and the ravings of what he very justly styles the "secession organ" in New-York, have alarmed him needlessly. He will live to see all his gloomy predictions falsified.

Let us give him a bit of advice,—let him trust his own speculations on the future based on what he knows very little of, somewhat less implicitly. Let him attach less importance to the ravings of irresponsible demagogues, and the harmless badinage of social conversation. Let him judge our Government by its acts, and our people by their opinions, as embodied in laws, and he will then find less reason than he thinks he has had hitherto, for assuring the English people that we are ruled by a mob,—that we hate Great Britain, and that our rulers are resolved upon war. He has done infinite mischief hitherto. We believe he will rejoice as heartily as the rest of us that it has had no more fatal result thus far. We trust he will not be unwilling to practice a wiser forbearance in the future.

THE GREAT RIVER FLEET ALMOST READY.—We publish in this morning's TIMES the first full and accurate account of the Mississippi gunboat and mortar fleet that has yet been given to the public—at least all the facts and details concerning it which the military authorities think proper to be published. The hour of readiness and the day of sailing of this flotilla have been so often promised as at hand and so frequently deferred to an indefinite future that some folks have almost begun to think the whole thing a Western myth, or, at least, that it would not be ready until the rebels were crushed and the war was over. But it will be seen that the fleet is a thing of such vast proportions, and of so formidable a character, that it seems almost incredible that it should have been got to its present stage of readiness in five short months. The whole flotilla, consisting of twelve enormously strong gunboats, mounting nearly two hundred of the heaviest guns, and sixty-six mortarboats and their aids, are now at Cairo, taking aboard the powder and shot that will soon burst as thunder and lightning over the heads of the rebels of the Great Valley. Things at all the main points in the West now seem to be almost prepared for the word ready. The wonder is, not that they have been so long in getting to their present stage, but that it has been possible in so short a time to achieve such vast results.

FACT AND FICTION ABOUT GEN. SCOTT'S RETURN.—It is a great thing to have enterprising and reliable correspondents. The *Tribune* has one at Washington who telegraphs thus:

"Gen. SCOTT'S sudden return *was*, as has been intimated, *at the suggestion of the Emperor Napoleon, who, in an interview with the old soldier, which ought to be historical*, apprised him that he had seen and approved Earl RUSSELL'S dispatch, that France was with England in this matter, but that France, the friend of the United States, desired a peaceable adjustment of the question between the two countries; desired it so much that *he, in the name of France, urged Gen. Scott*, if he loved his country, to hasten to the Cabinet at Washington, and urge the Government to comply with the demands of England."

Gen. SCOTT did not see the Emperor NAPOLEON at all during his stay in France. Of course he had no "interview" with him, nor did he come home at his request. Gen. SCOTT did not even see M. THOUVENEL, nor any other high Government functionary, nor any one who assumed to speak for France or who advised him in the name of France, or for any public purpose whatever, to hasten to the Cabinet at Washington and urge compliance with the demands of England. He came home in the *Arago* solely and exclusively because he believed we were on the eve of a war with England, and that, if he did not embrace this opportunity of returning, he would probably be detained in Europe until the restoration of peace, and he preferred to be in his own country in the event of war.

These statements are made on the authority of Gen. SCOTT himself, who, immediately upon his arrival, desired that the public mind should be disabused of the impression that he had come home on any public "mission" whatever.

REJOICINGS AT THE SOUTH.—The following paragraph is from a Memphis (rebel) paper:

"Norfolk is all excitement. Great joy prevailed last night at the reception of the European news. Bonfires were lighted, rockets touched off, &c."

We fear this joy will be short-lived. The people of Norfolk will be intensely disgusted with Mr. LINCOLN and SEWARD when they learn that they have decided on the whole not to have a war with England just now. What a pity they could not have been accommodated.

### Heavy Gale at Cape Race.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Monday, Dec. 30.

There was a heavy easterly gale at Cape Race on Saturday and Sunday, with a tremendous sea. The steamship *Europa*, Capt. ANDERSEN, passed the Cape at 1½ o'clock on Sunday afternoon, about half a mile distant, but the sea being so extremely high, it was considered not only dangerous but foolhardy to risk the lives of the boat's crew in attempting to board the steamer. Capt. ANDERSON, of the *Europa* is entitled to the thanks of the Press and of the commercial public for his efforts to obtain the latest dispatches, which would have been eminently successful and highly gratifying on this occasion, had not the extremely dangerous sea precluded any attempt at launching the news-boat.

NO CHARGES FOR TUITION.—The Principals of the Rockland Female Institute, at Nyack, offer the advantages of the regular English departments of their school to the daughters of those connected with the army or navy, in active service, *without charge*, during the continuance of the war for the Union. The school reopens directly after the holidays.

# HISTORY OF THE REBELLION.

## Chronological Record of the Leading Incidents of the War.

At this season—the close of the year—a résumé of the principal events that have occurred during the past twelve months will be read with interest. No one can say that the record is dull or uninstructive. For the convenience of the reader we have prepared two chronological tables—one giving the history of the rebellion, and of the operations on land, the other detailing more particularly the operations at sea. Both are convenient for future reference, and give, almost at a glance, a correct and concise account of the rise and progress of this great Southern rebellion—of the efforts that have been made to suppress it—and of the naval and military engagements that the war has engendered.

### CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAR.

1860.

*Dec.* 20.—Secession of South Carolina.

*Dec.* 24.—Withdrawal of the South Carolina delegation from Congress.

*Dec.* 26.—Evacuation of Fort Moultrie by Major ANDERSON.

*Dec.* 27.—The Palmetto flag raised in Charleston—Forts Pinckney and Moultrie occupied by State troops.

*Dec.* 29.—Mr. FLOYD tenders his resignation as Secretary of War—President BUCHANAN accepts it.

*Dec.* 30.—Arsenals in South Carolina seized by State troops.

*Dec.* 31.—Exciting session of the Senate—Mr. BENJAMIN, of Louisiana, delivers a violent secession speech.

1861.

*Jan.* 1.—First symptoms of life in the Buchanan Administration—The frigate *Brooklyn* and another war-vessel ordered to Charleston.

*Jan.* 2.—Fort Pulaski, at Savannah, taken by order of the Governor of Georgia.

*Jan.* 3.—The President, having sent back the last communication of the South Carolina Commissioners unopened, they return to Charleston.

*Jan.* 4.—National Fast—The United States arsenal at Mobile taken by the local troops.

*Jan.* 5.—South Carolina Convention adjourned—The *Star of the West* leaves New-York with reinforcements for Fort Sumter.

*Jan.* 6.—Gov. HICKS refuses to convene the Maryland Legislature.

*Jan.* 7.—TOOMBS delivers a violent secession speech in the Senate—Maj. ANDERSON's course in evacuating Fort Moultrie sustained by the House of Representatives.

*Jan.* 8.—Resignation of Secretary THOMPSON—North Carolina forts seized by the State Government

*Jan.* 9.—The *Star of the West*, endeavoring to enter Charleston Harbor, was fired upon from Morris Island and Fort Moultrie, and compelled to return—The President sends a special message to Congress.

*Jan.* 10.—Arsenals and forts of Louisiana seized by the State Government—Secession of Mississippi—Secession of Florida.

*Jan.* 11—Secession of Alabama—Resignation of Secretary THOMAS—Appointment of Gen. DIX as Secretary of the Treasury.

*Jan.* 12.—Mr. SEWARD speaks in the Senate on the National troubles.

*Jan.* 13.—Pensacola Navy-yard seized by Secessionists.

*Jan.* 15.—Secession Meeting in New-York.

*Jan.* 17.—Mr. HOLT nominated Secretary of War.

*Jan.* 18.—Close of the Debate on the Crisis in the House of Representatives.

*Jan.* 19.—Secession of Georgia.

*Jan.* 21.—Withdrawal of the Alabama, Mississippi and Florida Delegations from Washington.

*Jan.* 22.—Arms destined for Alabama seized in New-York.

*Jan.* 23.—Second seizure of arms in New-York.

*Jan.* 25.—Ex-Secretary FLOYD presented by the Grand Jury for malfeasance in office—Secession of Louisiana.

*Jan.* 28.—Withdrawal of the Georgia Delegation from Congress—The Legislature of South Carolina resolve to demand the surrender of Sumter.

*Jan.* 29.—President Buchanan again evinces an unsteadiness of purpose, and an indisposition to deal vigorously with the rebellion.

*Feb.* 1.—Warlike preparations at Charleston—Secession of Texas.

*Feb.* 2.—The cutter *Lewis Cass* surrendered to the State of Alabama.

*Feb.* 4.—Assembling of the Peace Convention at Washington—Organization of the Southern Convention at Montgomery.

*Feb.* 5.—Withdrawal of the Louisiana Delegation from Congress.

*Feb.* 6.—Important speech in the Senate of Senator JOHNSON, of Tennessee.

*Feb.* 8.—The Montgomery Convention adopt the Constitution of the United States for the Provisional Government of the "Confederate States of America."

*Feb.* 9.—JEFFERSON DAVIS, of Mississippi, elected President, and A. H. STEPHENS, of Georgia, Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy, by a unanimous vote—Arkansas arsenals seized by the State Government.

*Feb.* 11.—Mr. LINCOLN, President elect, leaves Springfield, Ill., and commences his journey to Washington.

*Feb.* 12.—The Confederate States Government takes charge of all questions pending between the Southern States and the United States Government.

*Feb.* 17.—First speech of JEFFERSON DAVIS after his election.

*Feb.* 18.—Inauguration of the President of the Confederate States at Montgomery—Defeat of secession in Missouri.

*Feb.* 19.—The President elect in New-York.

*Feb.* 21.—The President elect in Philadelphia—He learns of a plot to take his life.

*Feb.* 23.—The President elect passes through Baltimore secretly, and arrives in Washington.

*Feb.* 25.—Information received of the treason of Gen. TWIGGS in Texas, of the surrender of forts in Texas to the State Government, and also of a large body of United States troops—The Peace Conference agree upon FRANKLIN's Territorial Proposition for a division of the Territory on the line of 36° 30'.

*Feb.* 28.—President DAVIS vetoes the bill legalizing the African Slave-trade.

*March.* 2.—Revenue cutter *Dodge* seized by the Texan authorities.

*March.* 4.—Inauguration of President LINCOLN

*March* 16.—Adjournment of the Southern Congress.

*March* 18.—Important Diplomatic appointments by President LINCOLN.

*March* 20.—Secession of Arkansas.

*March* 21.—A vessel with supplies for the United States fleet seized by rebels off Pensacola.

*April* 3.—Great preparations commenced in the Northern Navy Yards.

*April* 4.—Excitement at Charleston

*April* 5.—Preparations of BEAUREGARD to bombard Sumter.

*April* 9.—JEFFERSON DAVIS makes a requisition for troops.

*April* 11.—Demand made by BEAUREGARD for the unconditional surrender of Fort Sumter.

*April* 12.—The Charleston batteries open on Sumter.

*April* 13.—Surrender of Sumter.

*April* 15.—The President issues his Proclamation for 75,000 volunteers.—Tremendous excitement in the North.

*April* 16.—The Confederate Government call for 32,000 more troops.—Fort Pickens reinforced by Col. BROWN's command.

*April* 17.—Gov. LETCHER, of Virginia, issues a Proclamation hostile to the National Government.

*April* 18.—Arrival in New-York of the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment *en route* to Washington—Fears begin to prevail for the safety of the capital.

*April* 19.—The Massachusetts Sixth Regiment attacked in Baltimore by a mob and several of its members killed—The Seventh New-York Regiment leave for Washington.

*April* 20.—Immense Union demonstration in New-York—Burning of the Gosport Navy-yard, including three ships of the line, three frigates, two sloops and a brig, mounting over 400 guns.

*April* 25.—Virginia joins the Confederate States.

*April* 27.—Twenty-one thousand National troops in Washington.

*May* 3.—President issues a proclamation calling for more troops to serve for three years, and directing the increase of the Regular army and the enlistment of addition seamen.

*May* 13.—Resumption of the interrupted communication with Washington *vid* Baltimore—Baltimore occupied by Federal troops—Anti-Secession Convention in Western Virginia.

*May* 17.—Union triumph in Kentucky. The Confederate Congress authorize the issue of $50,000,000 in bonds, payable in twenty years.

*May* 21.—Seizure of telegrams by the Government.

*May* 22.—The seat of the rebel Government transferred to Richmond.

*May* 24.—Advance of the Union Army into Virginia. Assassination of Col. ELLSWORTH.

*May* 27.—Occupation of Newport's News by Gen. BUTLER.

*May* 28.—BANKS and FREMONT appointed Major-Generals.

*May* 31.—Cavalry skirmish at Fairfax Court-House.

*June* 2.—Union victory at Phillippa, Western Virginia.

*June* 3.—BEAUREGARD arrives at Manassas Junction and takes command of the Confederate army Border State Convention meet at Frankfort, Ky.

*June* 10.—Affair at Big Bethel.

*June* 11.—Skirmish at Romney, Western Virginia.

*June* 13.—Evacuation of Harper's Ferry by the rebels

*June* 17.—Successful engagement with the rebels at Booneville, Mo.

*June* 28.—Arrest of Marshal KANE in Baltimore.

*July* 1.—Arrest of the Baltimore Board of Police Commissioners.

*July* 2.—Successful engagement of Gen. PATTERSON's column near Martinsborgh.

*July* 4.—Meeting of Congress.

*July* 5.—Successful engagement at Brier Forks, Mo., between the troops under SIEGEL and the rebels under Gov. JACKSON and RAINS.

*July* 11.—Defeat of PEGRAM by McCLELLAN at Rich Mountain, Va.—Surrender of the entire rebel force.

*July* 13.—Engagement at Carrick's Ford. Defeat and death of the rebel Gen. GARNETT.

*July* 16.—Advance of the army of the Potomac.

*July* 21.—Battle of Bull Run.

*July* 25.—Arrival of Gen. McCLELLAN in Washington, to take command of the army of the Potomac. —Gov. MORGAN, of New-York, calls for 25,000 more troops from the State.

*July* 27.—Return of the Sixty-ninth and other New York regiments from Washington.

*July* 28.—The command under Gen. BANKS, at Harper's Ferry, is withdrawn to the Maryland side of the Potomac.

*Aug.* 6.—Adjournment of Congress.

*Aug.* 7.—Hampton burnt by the rebels.

*Aug.* 10.—Battle of Wilson's Creek, near Springfield. Death of Gen. LYON.

*Aug.* 12.—Arrest of Hon. C. J. FAULKNER, late United States Minister to France.

*Aug.* 16.—Proclamation of the President declaring the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas in insurrection.

*Aug.* 24.—The transmission of secession journals through the mails prohibited.

*Aug.* 26.—Skirmish at Summersvill

*Aug.* 28.—Capture of the Hatteras Inlet forts by the expedition under Commodore STRINGHAM and Gen. BUTLER.

*Aug.* 30.—Gen. FREMONT issues a proclamation confiscating the slaves of rebels.

*Sept.* 4—False reports of the death of JEFFERSON DAVIS gain circulation and credit.

*Sept.* 6.—The Confederates advance into Kentucky.—Gen. GRANT, with National troops, takes possession of Paducah, Kentucky.

*Sept.* 10.—Defeat of FLOYD, near Gauley River.

*Sept.* 11.—The Kentucky Legislature pass a resolution ordering rebel troops to leave the State—The President, in a letter to Gen. FREMONT, directs him to modify the confiscation clause of his proclamation of Aug. 30.

*Sept.* 16.—Wholesale arrest of members of the Maryland regiment.

*Sept.* 20.—Surrender of Col. MULLIGAN, at Lexington.

*Sept.* 25.—Occupation of Romney, Western Virginia, by National troops.

*Sept.* 28.—Occupation of Munson's Hill by National troops.

*Oct.* 5.—Unsuccessful effort of rebels to retake the Hatteras Inlet forts.

*Oct.* 7.—Gen. FREMONT and his army leave Jefferson City in pursuit of PRICE.

*Oct.* 8.—Attack of rebels on Santa Rosa Island, and repulse by regulars and WILSON's Zouaves.

Oct. 11.—Naval collision between rebel gunboats and National vessels at the head of the Mississippi passes. Unsuccessful attempt of the steam ram "Turtle" to sink one of the National ships.

*Oct.* 16.—Successful skirmish near Harper's Ferry Capture of a rebel cannon by troops under Col. GEARY.

*Oct.* 20.—Partial blockade of the Potomac by rebel batteries.

*Oct.* 21.—Part of Gen. STONE's Division cross the Potomac at Ball's Bluff, and after severe fighting are driven back, with great loss, by the enemy. On this occasion Gen. BAKER fell.
—Engagement near Frederickstown, Mo., and defeat of rebels under JEFF. THOMPSON.

*Oct.* 25.—Gallant charge of the Fremont Guard, under Maj. ZAGONYI, against a superior body of rebels at Springfield.

*Oct.* 26.—Brilliant success of National troops under Gen. KELLEY at Romney.

*Oct.* 31.—Retirement of Gen. SCOTT.
—Gen. McCLELLAN appointed Commander-in-Chief.

*Nov.* 2—Removal of Gen. FREMONT from command in the West.

*Nov.* 7.—Engagement at Belmont, Mo.—Bombardment and capture of the forts at Port Royal Entrance by United States squadron.

*Nov.* 8.—Capture of the rebel Commissioners SLIDELL and MASON, on the British mail steamer *Trent*, by the United States war sloop *San Jacinto*.

*Nov.* 18.—Message of JEFF. DAVIS to the rebel Congress.

*Nov.* 20.—Disbanding of rebel troops in Accomac and Northampton Counties, Va.—Return of the population to their allegiance.

*Nov.* 23.—Bombardment of the rebel batteries by Fort Pickens and the ships-of-war *Niagara* and *Richmond*.

*Dec.* 2.—Meeting of Congress.

*Dec.* 4—Occupation of Ship Island by National troops.

*Dec.* 6.—Occupation of Beaufort, S. C., by the National troops.

*Dec.* 11.—Great fire in Charleston—Loss estimated at $7,000,000.

*Dec.* 12.—Occupation of Tybee Island by National troops.

*Dec.* 13.—Engagement at Alleghany Camp, Pocahontas County, Va.

*Dec.* 16.—Threatened War between the United States and Great Britain.

*Dec.* 18.—Large bodies of rebels dispersed by Gen. POPE in Missouri—Capture of a rebel camp with 1,300 prisoners.
—Gallant affair at Drainesville—Retreat of the enemy.

*Dec.* 20—Sixteen old whalers sunk by the National forces at the mouth of Charleston Harbor.

*Dec.* 22.—Skirmish near Fortress Munroe.

*Dec.* 25.—Retreat of the rebel Gen. PRICE to Arkansas.

*Dec.* 28.—Adjustment of the Mason-Slidell difficulty.—Suspension of specie payments in New-York.

*Dec.* 30.—Delivery of the rebel Commissioners, MASON and SLIDELL, to the British.

### CHRONOLOGY OF THE BLOCKADE.

*April* 19.—Presidential proclamation authorizing the blockade.

*April* 27.—Supplementary proclamation announcing the blockade of North Carolina and Virginia ports.

*May* 4.—The British ship *Hiawatha*, twice fired at by the *Cumberland*, escapes and gets into Norfolk.

*May* 6.—The *Monticello* is blockading the mouth of the Elizabeth River, and the *Quaker City* is off the Virginia capes.

*May* 8.—Shipment of arms *vid* the Mississippi prohibited.

*May* 9.—Blockade of Charleston by the *Niagara*.

*May* 11.—Pensacola blockaded. The *Pawnee*. *Monticello*, *Harriet Lane* and *Yankee* are off Fortress Monroe.

*May* 18.—Prizes arrive at Philadelphia.—Savannah blockaded.

*May* 20.—At this date six American flag-ships, with full rank Commodores attached, belong to the blockading squadron.

*May* 22.—Complaints of the inefficiency of the blockade, particularly of Charleston.—The *Niagara* captures the ship *Gen. Parkhill* off Charleston.

*May* 25.—Blockade of the Mississippi established.

*May* 27.—Mobile blockade.

*May* 28.—Blockade of Pensacola considered thorough and effective.
—The *Brooklyn* blockading off the mouths of the Mississippi.

*June* 1.—At this date twelve ships, two barks, one brig and five schooners had been captured by the blockading squadron.
—We have at this date our first intimation of an attempt to raise a Confederate navy. Reports received from New-Orleans, state that a flotilla of gunboats and a floating battery are being constructed there.

*June* 4.—Engagement between the *Harriet Lane* and a rebel battery, at the mouth of the Nansemund River.

*June* 5.—At this date the *Massachusetts* had captured twenty-five prizes at the Passes of the Mississippi.

*June* 11.—Blockade of Apalachicola by the *Montgomery*.

*June* 25.—Blockade of Mississippi Sound.

*July* 1.—The *Sumter* privateer runs the blockade at New-Orleans.

*July* 4.—It is announced that thirty-seven men-of-war and thirty-nine steam gunboats are engaged in the blockading service—Blockade of Galveston established—Seven prizes taken there by the *South Carolina* between the 4th and 7th of July.

*July* 17.—The pirate *Sumter* is supplied with coal at Curacoa.

*July* 20.—Reinforcement of the blockading squadron at the mouths of the Mississippi.

*July* 30.—The pirate *Sumter* supplied with coal at Trinidad.

*Aug.* 4.—Destruction of the rebel privateer *Petrel* by the *St. Lawrence*.

*Aug.* 9.—A steamer runs the blockade of Charleston—Great complaints of the inefficiency of the blockade at that port.

*Aug.* 16.—Reports of privateers abound—Inefficiency of the blockade of North Carolina ports—Vessels from Wilmington and Beaufort arrive at Halifax and other British ports.

*Aug.* 17.—Charleston blockading squadron increased—It consists now of the *Roanoke*, *Vandalia*, *Seminole* and *Iroquois*—Fernandina strictly blockaded—Vessels arrive at Havana from Savannah and New-Orleans.

*Aug.* 26.—The ship *Finland* burnt by the *R. R. Cuyler* off Apalachicola.

*Aug.* 28.—Capture of the Hatteras forts by the United States squadron.

*Sept.* 6.—Charleston is blockaded by the *Wabash* and *Vandalia*.

*Sept.* 14.—Destruction of the privateer *Judah* by the United States frigate *Colorado* off Pensacola harbor.

*Oct.* 5.—Great slaughter among the enemy at Hatteras by the *Monticello's* guns.

*Oct.* 7.—Unsuccessful attempt to cut out a privateer at Beaufort, S. C.

*Oct.* 8.—Mobile is said to be thoroughly blockaded.

*Oct.* 11.—Escape of the *Theodora* from Charleston harbor with MASON and SLIDELL on board—A rebel squadron, under ROLLINS, engages the National fleet at the head of the Mississippi passes, and is driven off.

*Oct.* 15.—The ship *Thomas Watson*, attempting to get into Charleston, is burnt to the water's edge by the blockading squadron—The schooner *Emily Tenbrook* runs the blockade at Savannah, and gets into St. Thomas—Engagement between the *Seminole* and rebel batteries at Quantico.

*Oct.* 17.—The *Nashville* runs the blockade at Charleston.

*Oct.* 19.—Engagement between the *Massachusetts* and a rebel steamboat at the mouth of the Mississippi.

*Nov.* 2.—The rebel steamer *Bermuda*, laden with cotton for Liverpool, runs the blockade at Savannah.

*Nov.* 7.—Capture by the United States squadron of the forts at Port Royal entrance—Destruction off Galveston of the privateer *Royal Yacht* by the *Santee* frigate.

*Nov.* 9.—Capture of MASON and SLIDELL by the *San Jacinto*.

*Nov.* 19.—American ship *Harvey Birch* burnt at sea by the pirate *Nashville*.

*Nov.* 20.—Twenty-five vessels, laden with stone, sail from New-Bedford, to be sunk at the mouth of Charleston Harbor.

*Nov.* 21.—The pirate *Nashville* enters the British port of Southampton.

*Nov.* 25.—Capture by the *Penguin* of the schooner *Albion*, of Nassau, N. P., with a cargo valued at $100,000—The privateer *Sumter* escapes the *Iroquois*, which was watching for her off Martinique.

*Dec.* 1.—The Secretary of the Navy reports that 160 prizes have been captured since the commencement of the blockade, by 43 vessels of the squadron.

*Dec.* 20.—Sixteen vessels sunk at the mouth of Charleton Harbor.

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, No. 762 is published THIS MORNING. In it will be found the latest intelligence received by telegraph up to the hour of going to press. In addition, it contains:

I.—THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE TRENT DIFFICULTY.—The determined surrender of Mason and Slidell, and official correspondence on the subject—The dispatches of Lord John Russell, M. Thouvenel, Secretary Seward and Lord Lyons, in full.

II.—LEADING ARTICLES.—Settlement of the *Trent* Affair, the Rights of Neutral Nations—The Effect of Secretary Seward's Dispatches Abroad—An Historical Coincidence—A Word from Count Gasparin—The Tragi-Comedy in Missouri—The Financial Policy of Government—The New Duties on Tea and Coffee—Suspension of Specie Payments by the Banks—The Situation, its Gratifying Aspects, &c., &c.

III.—THE EUROPEAN MAILS.—Reception of the News by the *Niagara*—Continued Agitation of the *Trent* Affair—Thurlow Weed's Letter to the London *Times*—Commander Williams' Account of the Search of the *Trent*—The Surrender of Slidell and Mason not to Suspend Preparations for War—Efforts of the Peace Party—Miscellaneous and General Intelligence.

IV.—THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ISSUE.—The Condition of Public Sentiment in England—A Ground Current toward Peace—Bad Position of the British Ministry—Aversion of the Queen to War—A Plain Course for the United States Government, &c.

V.—IMPORTANT FROM FRANCE.—Condemnation of the Act of Capt. Wilkes—Excitement among the French—Tone of the Press—European Ridicule of American Slowness—Jeff Davis' Message, etc.

VI.—THE IRISH IN CANADA.—Meeting in Montreal to Organize an Irish Battalion for the British Service—Exciting Times.

VII.—THE WAR IN THE WEST.—Arrival of Twelve Hundred Prisoners—Dr. M'Dowell—Halleck and the Bridge-burners—The Tax on Rebels—Christmas Dinner—Hospitals, etc.

VIII.—FROM OUR SOUTHERN PORTS.—Gratifying Decrease in the Number of Sick—Energetic Operations of Gen. Stevens—Important Developments made by Our Scouts—The Available Rebel Force in the Vicinity—Prisoners Captured—A South Carolina Family History, etc.

IX.—FROM CAIRO.—The Expected movement Down the Mississippi—Delay in the Preparations—Gunboats Ready for Service—The Bomb-Ketches—Return of National Prisoners from Memphis, etc.


**The Fire at the Oil Works.**

OFFICE OF THE NEW-YORK KEROSENE OIL Co., Saturday, Dec. 28, 1861.

*To the Editor of the New-York Times:*

Our attention has been called to an article in your edition of Saturday, giving an exaggerated account of a fire at our works, calculated to unsettle the oil market, and do us much harm. The injury is confined to the burning of the connections of seven stills, the destruction of some two thousand gallons of unfinished oil, or a total loss of not to exceed $2,500. The fire does not in any way interfere with the daily supply of oil. Yours, &c.,

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For—Boys—and—Girls.
Ladies and Children's Furs of every description,
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FORKS, SPOONS, &c., &c.
A great variety of first-class goods offered at prices to suit the times, at No. 22 John-st. W. S. MURRAY.

**The Recent Fire in Broadway.**
BURNING OF HEGEMAN'S DRUG-STORE.

*Messrs. Herring & Co., No. 251 Broadway, New-York:*

GENTLEMEN: The Herring's Patent Champion Safe which we bought of you some two years ago has been recovered from the ruins of Hegeman & Co.'s Drug-Store, No. 161 Broadway, which was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday morning last, the 22d inst.

We occupied the entire upper part of the building as a manufactory of paper boxes and salesroom for papers and cards. We had a large amount of material on hand, and the inflammable nature of the drugs stored on the three floors below made a very hot fire. All our books, insurance policies and other valuable papers, beside a small amount of money, was locked up in your Patent Safe. The safe stood on the second floor near the centre of the building, and fell with the ruins of the building into the cellar below, where it lay imbedded until 8 o'clock last evening, a period of *one hundred and thirteen hours*, or *nearly five days*. We are happy to add that our books, papers and money were all completely preserved, and the entire contents of your safe when taken out this morning are almost as bright as when we put them in.

We have selected another Herring's Champion Safe to lock them up in, and shall always take pleasure in recommending them to our friends for use.

EBBINGHAUS & ZOLLINGER.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.

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White and lined gloves, mufflers, handkerchiefs, &c., wholesale or retail, at low prices,
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KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.
KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 669.—Dec. 30, 1861.
65, 41, 4, 74, 55, 2, 21, 61, 45, 11, 6, 30, 12.
KENTUCKY, CLASS 670.—Dec. 30, 1861.
45, 78, 14, 46, 5, 36, 8, 18, 76, 10, 66, 75, 24, 47.
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MURRAY, EDDY & CO.,
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

**ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY.**—IN DRAWing of Dec. 17, 1861, No. 12,281 drew $100,000. No. 25,354 drew $50,000, No. 9,784 drew $30,000, No. 8,847 drew $16,000, No. 9,012 drew $10,000, being the five capital prizes. Prizes cashed and information furnished by
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SAMUEL KIDDER & CO.'S ASTHMATIC PASTILLES give instant relief. They are to burn and obviate the necessity of taking medicine. May be used by children or adults with equal success. For sale by Hegeman & Co., Nos. 161, 399, 511 and 756 Broadway, and 17th-st., corner of 4th-av.; J. Milhau & Son, No. 183 Broadway, and by all wholesale and retail druggists.

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**WANTED**—BACK NUMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK TIMES, Oct. 10, 22,; Nov. 20; all of 1860. Twelve cents each will be paid for the above. Inquire of Sub-Clerk at this Office.

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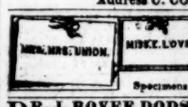


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**DR. BELLOWS' GREAT SERMON**—"Pangs of the Gospel," delivered at All Souls Church, on Christmas Day, with portrait of the Doctor, is published in the New-York *Illustrated News*, now ready and for sale by all newsmen.

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## LAW REPORTS.

**Liability of Hotel Keepers—What articles and Sums of Money Guests are Not Required to place in the Safe of the Hotel.**

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.
Before Justices Sutherland, Welles and Leonard.

*Benjamin Giles* vs. *James S. Libby and A. S. Whitney.*—The defendants were proprietors of the Libby House, a hotel in this City, and the plaintiff was their guest. Upon retiring to bed the plaintiff discovered that he was to be put into a room with another person, and protested against it. He however, retired, locking the door, or turning the key, and hanging his watch on a nail in the wall. His money, about $50, was in the pocket of his pantaloons. In the morning he found the door ajar, and his fellow-lodger gone, together with his gold watch, pencil and money. In his complaint, it is alleged that the property was lost by the carelessness of the defendants, he being placed to sleep in a room with another person, and the room not being securely fastened.

The answer denied that the loss was the result of the carelessness of the defendants, alleging that it was occasioned by the carelessness of the plaintiff. It was also pleaded as a defence, that a safe was provided in the house, under the act of 1855, and that notice thereof was posted as required by the act.

The plaintiff established his case before the referee, and obtained judgment in his favor.

Appeal was taken to this branch of the Court, where it was now held, that at common law the liability of the innkeeper for the safe-keeping of the property of his guest was founded upon an implied contract between them, which had for its consideration the usual charges paid by guests. The statute was not intended to impair this common law liability of the innkeeper, except to exempt such an amount of money, and such jewels, ornaments or valuables as the landlord or hotel-keeper himself would put into a safe, if convenient, when retiring at night. It could not be supposed that this act was intended to exempt the landlord from his common law liability, unless the guest emptied his pockets of every cent of money, and deposited it, with his watch and pencil-case, in the safe, both of which last-mentioned articles he might have occasion to use after retiring to bed.

In this case the plaintiff had no more money in his pocket than his personal expenses might at any time demand; and to have put that sum, his watch and pencil-case into the safe of the hotel would have been to be ridiculously prudent. Judgment affirmed.

Gilbert Dean for plaintiff; Wm. Fullerton and John Owen for defendants.

**The Excise Cases.**

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.
Before Justice Barnard.

*Board of Excise* vs. *Bernard Carberry.*—This case was stated in the TIMES of the 27th, at which time a motion was made to dismiss the complaint, on the ground that the action was commenced by Messrs. Stokes & Cushing, without serving on the Board of Excise a sufficient notice, as required by law.

The motion was now denied, with $10 costs.

**Court of General Sessions.**

In this Court yesterday, before Recorder HOFFMAN, the District Attorney moved a postponement of the sentence of Chas. M. Jefferds until Saturday next, at the request of Mr. Brady, counsel for the prisoner, who was too unwell yesterday to attend in Court. The sentence of Dr. Moses Lowenberg, convicted of murder in the first degree, was also postponed to the same date.

In Part II., before Judge McCUNN, several motions were entertained, and the Court adjourned.

**Business of the Courts for the Past Year.**

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.
H. P. Randolph, Clerk.

*Non-Enumerated Motions.*—Motions on the Calendar for the past year, 366; disposed of, 165.

*Enumerated Causes.*—On the Calendar, 840; disposed of, 393.

*Students admitted to Practice.*—The whole number of students admitted after examination, 79; admitted on motion, 28.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.
W. Sterling Yard, Clerk.

Demurrers on Calendar, January, 1861, 25; since added, 145; issues of law and fact on Calendar, January, 1861, 436; since added, 556. Total number of causes on Calendar, 1,161; disposed of, 333.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.—PART I.
Theodore M. Squires, Clerk.

Whole number of causes tried, 866; tried by Court and Jury, 122; tried by Court, Jury being waived, 97; inquests, 517; complaints dismissed, 70.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.—PART II.
Lawrence Cheney, Clerk.

Whole number of causes tried, 396; tried by Court and Jury, 163; tried by Court, Jury being waived, 37; inquests, 209; complaints dismissed, 56.

The whole number of the causes on the calendar at the commencement of the year, 3,219; added since, about 3,000.

**Decisions.**

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.
Before Justices Clerk, Sutherland and Barnard.

*Joiner* vs. *Williams.*—Order of the Special Term reversed without costs, and the demurrer overruled, with liberty to the defendant to answer in ten days, Notice of the order to be entered with the decision. Opinion by CLERKE, P. J. Dissenting opinion by INGRAHAM.

*Brush* vs. *Field.*—Judgment reserved as to Defendant Field and a new trial ordered, costs to abide event, unless the plaintiff stipulate as required in the opinion. Opinion by Justice LEONARD.

Decisions in cases heard at the General Term of November, 1861:

*Williams, plaintiff,* vs. *The People.*—Judgment affirmed. Opinion by Justice INGRAHAM.

*McArdle* vs. *The People.*—Judgment reversed and a new trial ordered in the Court of General Sessions. Opinion by Justice INGRAHAM.

*McCotter* vs. *The Mayor, &c.*—Judgment restored; new trial ordered; costs to abide event. Opinion by Justice ALLEN.

*E. Edwards* vs. *Bostwick.*—Judgment affirmed, without costs. Opinion by Justice CLERKE.

*Thomson* vs. *Tioga Railroad Company.*—Judgment reversed; new trial ordered; costs to abide event. Opinions by Justice CLERKE and Justice ALLEN.

*Belmont et al.* vs. *Lane et al.*—Order affirmed without costs.

*In the Matter of proving the last Will and Testament of Wm. H. Merchant, deceased.*—Decree of the Surrogate affirmed with costs.

*Wilson* vs. *The People.*—Judgment affirmed.

*Vincent* vs. *The People.*—Judgment reversed.

*Anderson* vs. *The People.*—Judgment affirmed.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.
Before Justice Sutherland.

*Magian and others* vs. *Eaton, &c.*—Finding of facts, &c., settled.

*The People et al. Clancy and others* vs. *Robt. T. Hoss,* Orders in each case alike and settled.

*The People ex rel. Monaghen* vs. *Robt. T. Hoss.*—Order in this and other cases settled. See order proposed &c.

Before Justice Barnard.

*Magee* vs. *Marsh.*—Motion granted.

*Emmett* vs. *Adams.*—Motion granted on defendant stipulating not to sue.

*Board of Commissioners of Excise* vs. *Carberry.*—Motion denied; $10 costs.

*Wilkinson* vs. *Harley.*—Motion denied; $10 costs.

Before Justice Barnard.

*Perdon* vs. *Lane et al.*—Motion granted.

*Boorhis* vs. *Beard.*—Motion denied, with $10 costs. Leave given to defendant to withdraw his counter claim in five days, on payment of the $10 costs.

*Jacobs* vs. *Auld.*—Motion granted.

Before Justice Leonard.

*Wolf* vs. *Gosland.*—Motion for an attachment is denied, without costs, with leave to the plaintiff to proceed with his reference. This denial of the motion to be without prejudice to another motion, in case the defendant shall refuse to answer on account, to the extent indicated.

Before Justice Sutherland.

*Dimon* vs. *Delmonico et al.*—Findings of facts, &c., settled.

Before Justice Leonard.

*In the Matter of the Petition of the Trustees of the New-York Protestant Episcopal School.*—The application of the purchasers to be released from their bids, &c., is granted, and of the Trustees, &c., to compel the purchasers to take title, &c., is denied, with $10 costs, to be paid to the counsel for the purchasers on this motion.

SUPERIOR COURT—GENERAL TERM.
Before a Full Bench, Bosworth, C. J.

*Blakeley et al.* vs. *Jacobson et al.*—Judgment affirmed.

*Jewitt et al.* vs. *Eaton.*—Order demurring a new trial reversed. Costs to abide event.

*Pollek* vs. *Gouverneur et al.*—Judgment affirmed, with costs.

*Galpin* vs. *Galpin* vs. *Walton.*—The order must be affirmed, with $10 costs.

*Mayor &c.* vs. *Judgment reversed. New trial ordered, costs to abide event.

*Platt et al.* vs. *The Union Mutual Insurance Company.*—Judgment reversed. New trial ordered. Costs to abide event.

*Druyderich* vs. *The Third-avenue Railroad Company.*—Judgment reversed. Order of reference vacated. New trial ordered. Costs to abide event.

*Johnston* vs. *Johnson.*—Judgment affirmed.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM.
Before Justice Bosworth.

*Kaye* vs. *Willett (Sheriff.)*—Relaxation of costs ordered.

*Leroy* vs. *Kelly (Sheriff.)*—Seven dollars and a half allowed for taking care of the property replevined. Motion that defendant pay this sum out of the proceeds of the property in his hands, denied.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.
Before Justice Brady.

*Caudert, Jr.,* vs. *Adams.*—Motion denied, but without costs. Defendant to appear before the Referee on the 6th day of January, 1862, at 2 P. M.

*In the Matter of the Assignment of Adams* vs. *Nelson.*—No final order. Assignee to furnish information of action in New-Jersey, &c. On such information application must be renewed on three days' notice. See order.

*Sleeper* vs. *Campbell.*—Order will be discharged on payment of $70.

*Stansbury* vs. *Morris.*—Default set aside on payment of $10 in ten days.

*Smith* vs. *Barrisble.*—Receiver ordered. Bond in $1,000.

*Galvey* vs. *Adams.*—Order of arrest discharged, with $10 costs to abide event.

*Sugdam* vs. *Hanlon.*—Motion granted conditionally. See order.

**Movements of European Steamers.**

FROM EUROPE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Borussia | Southampton | New-York | Dec. 18 |
| Etna | Liverpool | New-York | Dec. 18 |
| Norwegian | Liverpool | Portland | Dec. 19 |
| John Bull | Glasgow | New-York | Dec. 21 |
| Asia | Liverpool | New-York | Dec. 21 |
| Bremen | Southampton | New-York | Dec. 25 |
| Kangaroo | Liverpool | New-York | Dec. 26 |
| Bohemian | Liverpool | Portland | Dec. 26 |
| Canada | Liverpool | Boston | Dec. 28 |
| City of Baltimore | Liverpool | New-York | Jan. 1 |
| Saxonia | Southampton | New-York | Jan. 1 |
| North American | Liverpool | Portland | Jan. 2 |
| Hammonia | Southampton | New-York | Jan. 15 |
| Bavaria | Southampton | New-York | Jan. 29 |

FROM AMERICA.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| America | New-York | Liverpool | Jan. 1 |
| Damascus | New-York | Liverpool | Jan. 2 |
| Arago | New-York | Southampton | Jan. 4 |
| Nova Scotian | Portland | Liverpool | Jan. 4 |
| Edinburgh | New-York | Liverpool | Jan. 4 |
| St. Andrew | New-York | Glasgow | Jan. 4 |
| Niagara | Boston | Liverpool | Jan. 8 |
| Etna | New-York | Liverpool | Jan. 11 |

**Departure of European Mails.**

The mails for Europe by the *America* will close at the New-York Post-office on Wednesday, at 7 A. M.

**Mails Close at the Post-office.**

North Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at.....5 A. M. and 4:30 and 10 P. M.
Western Mails (*via* Erie Railroad).5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails close at.....5 A. M., 2 P. M. and 6:30 P. M.

Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 5½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.

On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

## HELP WANTED.

AGENTS CAN MAKE $5 PER DAY—MALE or female, selling Lloyd's great steel-plate Military Map and Gazeteer of the fifteen Southern States; five feet square; worth $10, price only fifty cents. Lloyd's $100,000 steel-plate Topographical Map of Virginia, five feet square. This is the only map used by Gen. McClellan; worth $20, price 25 cents. Lloyd's official steel-plate Map of Missouri; worth $3, price 25 cents. Lloyd's $5 Railroad Map of America, 3,000,000 copies of which have already been sold; price 25 cents. Agents supplied at half the retail prices, and maps warranted. Maps sent by mail anywhere for two cents postage.
J. T. LLOYD, American Map Publisher, No. 164 Broadway, and Louisville, Ky.

$100—Wanted, a smart young man to open an office in Cincinnati, and take the exclusive wholesale agency for all of Lloyd's great Military Maps, which sell like the wind. One hundred dollars is sufficient capital. To a young man who will follow instructions, $100 a week may be made. Also, agents to go to Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Canada, Detroit, Indianapolis, and Rochester, N. Y., and every other State.

$500—Wanted, an enterprising man, to go to California, and take the exclusive agency for all of Lloyd's great Military Maps. A fortune can be made on these maps in California. Over 3,000,000 copies of one of my maps have been sold in the States, already. Also, a man to go to Havana, South America, Mexico, Germany, and Italy. France and England are taken, and agents coining money.
LLOYD'S MAPS ARE IN FRENCH, SPANISH, GERMAN AND ITALIAN.

EVIDENCE OF THE CORRECTNESS
OF
LLOYD'S MAPS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 2, 1861.

J. T. LLOYD, Publisher:
SIR: Please forward immediately, by mail, directed to the secretary of State, Copies of Lloyd's Topographical Map of Virginia, Lloyd's Military Map and Gazetteer of the Southern States, Lloyd's Official Map of Missouri, and Lloyd's American Railroad Map. Send your bill to George E. Baker, Disbursing Clerk. Also send me circulars of all new maps you may issue. Respectfully, yours,
J. C. DERBY, Librarian State Department.

*From the New-York Herald. Nov.* 2, 1861.
We have received a fine copy of Lloyd's great Military Map of the "Seat of War in Virginia." This is the best and only official map in existence, taken from actual surveys by order of the Executive. It is beautifully printed from steel plates, and colored with great perfection of art, and is the only map used in the planning of our campaigns in Virginia by our Commander-in-chief. The publisher is J. T. Lloyd, No. 164 Broadway.
BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1861.

J. T. LLOYD, Esq.
SIR: I am well pleased with your Map of Virginia. It is altogether the best I have seen. I inclose $1 for three copies of Lloyd's great steel-plate Military Map of the Southern States. Respectfully yours,
MILLARD FILLMORE.

A COOK.—WANTED, AN ENGLISH OR SCOTCH woman, who is a first-class cook, and who can produce references of the best character; none other need apply; to go eight miles from the City, and is to do the washing and ironing; the family consists of three persons. Apply at No. 15 William-st., on Thursday morning, from 9 to 11½ o'clock.

WANTED—AN INTELLIGENT MAN, BETWEEN 25 and 35 years of age, who is a good accountant, and has some knowledge of machinery, to superintend the general business of a manufacturing establishment and to reside in this City. Address Box No. 2,025 Post-office, with references. No application will be entertained unless full references are given.

NURSE WANTED.—A THOROUGHLY COMPETent woman as nurse; one that can take the entire charge of an infant a year old, and who is also a good seamstress; the most undoubted reference will be required. Apply at No. 42 East 24th-st., between 10 and 2 o'clock.

LEATHER MILITARY EQUIPMENTS.—LCutters, fitters and stitchers wanted at 2 Jacob-st.

## BUSINESS CHANCES.

ENGLISH PATENT FOR SALE.—THE UNdersigned offer for sale the right of Great Britain of BURLEY'S celebrated Dovetailing Machine, particularly adapted to the manufacture of boxes for shippers, requiring much more than ordinary strength, at a cost not exceeding the common nailed box. For the shipment of all heavy articles, such as shell, ammunition, &c., they are particularly adapted, having been adopted and now in use in the Arsenals and Navy-yards by the United States Government, in the manufacture of boxes used in the transportation of all stores, shell, ammunition, &c. The boxes made by this machine will, beyond doubt, eventually supersede the use of the old style nail-box, as they are much stronger and neater, without the use of nails, and in shipping by measurement save freight on cleats, which is a very important item. It also accomplishes the work in one hour of twenty men in one day. State Rights and French patent also for sale. Parties desirous of seeing the machine at work on sugar boxes will apply at the Excelsior Mills, Nos. 320, 322, 324 and 326 West 28th-st.
BURLEY & LOWERER.

## PRINTING MATERIALS.

NEW-YORK TYPE FOUNDRY,
(ESTABLISHED, 1823,)
NO. 29 SPRUCE-STREET.

PRINTERS ARE INVITED TO CALL ON the subscriber, where they can be supplied with EVERY STYLE of PRINTING TYPES, made from UNRIVALED HARD METAL, and finished in the most accurate manner, with Presses and every article they require, at the LOWEST PRICE for cash or approved paper. ELECTROTYPING and STEREOTYPING; Second-hand Presses and materials bought and sold. Type copperfaced to order by the Newton Company. Old type taken in exchange for new at 10 cents per pound.
PETER C. GORTELYOU.

## TO LET.

TO LET—THE UPPER PART OF A TWO-STORY house, in Franklin-av., near Myrtle-av., Brooklyn; rent very low. Inquire of PETER A. BERT, Real Estate House Agent and Auctioneer, No. 352 Grand-st., Williamsburgh.

TO LET—TO A GENTEEL, SMALL FAMILY, AT $15 per month, a handsome parlor, kitchen and second floor, with bath, gas, range, stationary wash-tubs, &c., at No. 28 President-st., three minutes' walk from Hamilton-av. Ferry, South Brooklyn.

STORES TO LET.—NO. 371 PEARL-ST., AND No. 171 Duane-st. Rent low. Apply to HAWLEY & GLOVER, No. 42 Pine-st.

## FURNISHED HOUSES TO LET.

A FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET—NO. 20 East 13th-st.; has all the modern improvements, is of unusually large size, and in complete order. Can be seen daily, from 4 to 5 o'clock P. M. For terms, &c., inquire of WM. A. COOK, No. 112 Broadway.

## SKATES.

SKATES.
ENGLISH SKATES.
AMERICAN SKATES.
GERMAN SKATES.
For sale wholesale and retail by
OSBORN & SWAN,
Nos. 33 and 34 Fulton-st.

## GROCERIES & PROVISIONS

WM. A. READ & CO.,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
BUTTER AND CHEESE.
STAND NOS. 61 AND 63 CATHARINE MARKET,
Opposite the Ferry, New-York.
GROCERS AND SHIPPING
Supplied at the lowest market prices.

## MATRIMONIAL.

A GENTLEMAN OF UNDOUBTED respectability, matrimonially inclined, seeks an introduction to a lady possessing wealth, social position and loveable qualities. Parents or friends are invited to correspond with RASSELAS, Station A, Post-office.

## HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

FOR SALE—A VERY STYLISH SPAN OF WELL matched bay carriage horses. Also a coupé, nearly as good as new. Apply at first private stable, in alley of No. 2 West 27th-st., or at office No. 11 of No. 29 Mercer-st.

## SITUATIONS WANTED.

### FEMALES.

AS CHAMBERMAID, &c.—WANTED, A situation, by a respectable Protestant girl, as chambermaid, or shaw, nursed and waitress, or would do general housework in a small private family. She understands her business in either capacity, is cleanly, active, willing and obliging. The best City reference. No objections to the country. Call for two days at No. 107 East 18th-st., bet. 3d and 4th avs.

AS CHAMBERMAID AND LAUNDRESS.—Wanted, a situation by a young woman as chambermaid and laundress, or cook and laundress. Best of City reference. Call, for two days, at No. 86 East 15th-st., in the store.

AS CHILDREN'S MAID, &c.—A SITUATION wanted by a Protestant American young girl to take care of children, and make herself useful; good City reference given. Call for two days at No. 113 Canal-st., between Chrystie and Forsyth sts., fifth floor, front room.

AS COOK.—A SITUATION WANTED, AS COOK, by a capable and trustworthy woman, in a private family; understands her business well; can be seen and recommended from her present employers. Inquire at No. 359 6th-av., near 22d-st. To save annoyance in the store, ring the private door-bell next the jeweler's.

AS COOK.—A RESPECTABLE WOMAN WISHES a situation as first-class cook in a private family; she thoroughly understands her business in all its branches, and can produce the most satisfactory City reference as to character and capability. Can be seen, for two days, at W. H. Jackson & Co.'s, grocers, under the 5th-av. Hotel.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION, BY A young woman who perfectly understands French and English cooking, in a private family or boarding-house, or to go out by the day; best of references given. Apply at No. 105 East 16th-st., between 1st and 2d avs., in the basement.

AS COOK.—A RESPECTABLE WOMAN WISHES a situation as cook in a hotel or first-class boarding house; best of City reference given. Can be seen for two days at No. 206 East 17th st., fourth floor, front room, No. 16.

AS COOK, &c.—WANTED, A SITUATION BY A respectable woman as cook; is an excellent cook, washer and ironer; understands her business well; can give the best of reference; is willing to go for moderate wages to a good home. Call for two days at No. 46 West 13th-st., between 5th and 6th avs., second floor, front room.

AS COOK, &c.—WANTED, BY A PROTESTANT young woman, a situation as cook, and to assist with washing; is an excellent plain cook, a good baker of bread and biscuits; has good City reference; no objection to the country. Can be seen for two days at the Protestant Employment Agency, No. 125 4th-av., between 12th and 13th sts.

AS COOK AND LAUNDRESS.—A RESpectable and trustworthy young woman desires a situation, in City or country; is a good cook and baker, first-class washer and ironer; is willing and obliging; wages no so much an object as a steady place. Apply at No. 378 6th-av., first floor, front.

AS COOK, WASHER AND IRONER.—Wanted, a situation by a respectable girl, to cook, wash, and iron, in a private family; has the best of City reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 118 7th-av.

AS PLAIN COOK OR GENERAL SERvant.—A situation wanted (either in the City or country) by a smart, industrious servant girl; is an excellent washer and ironer; neat, obliging, and trustworthy; will try to please, at moderate wages, and refers to her late employer. Apply at No. 133 Atlantic-st., near Henry, Brooklyn.

AS PROFESSED COOK.—SITUATION WANTed, by a respectable Protestant Englishwoman, as professed cook; she is fully experienced in all its branches, and has the best of City references; no objection to a short distance in the country; she will be found willing and obliging. Call for two days at No. 85 East 15th-st., between Irving-place and 3d-av., first floor, up stairs, next the fancy store.

AS GENERAL SERVANT.—WANTED, BY A neat, tidy girl, who has lived in a gentleman's family in Ireland, a situation as general servant; washes and irons well; or as chambermaid and waitress. Wages $6, in City or country. Call or address, No. 184 East 21st-st., two days.

AS NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS, OR AS chambermaid and seamstress. Advertiser can operate on Grover & Baker's sewing-machine; can cut out and make children's frocks, to fit in the neatest manner; has a first-class City reference; is a Protestant; has no objection to any part of the country in the North. Will be heard of for 3 days. Address C. M., Box No. 125 *Times* Office.

AS SEAMSTRESS.—A SITUATION WANTED by a seamstress that went out by the day, who is out of employment; wages no object, wants a home, or will go out for a month; has the best of City reference. Address No. 87 West 19th-st., near 6th-av., rear.

AS SEAMSTRESS OR NURSE, &c.—Wanted, by a competent, tidy girl a situation as seamstress or nurse and chambermaid; is quick at the needle; will wash and iron for a lady and child; or as laundress and chambermaid; wages $4 to $5 a month, in City or country. Call at 184 East 21st-st., for two days.

FREE TO EMPLOYERS.—HOUSEKEEPERS will please notice, that we furnish, free of any charge, female help, such as are well qualified and highly recommended to fill any station, in City or country—cooks, chambermaids, waiters, nurses, seamstresses, housekeepers, &c. Call at LOWERRE'S first-class Agency, No. 320 4th-av., near 25th-st.

COOKS, CHAMBERMAIDS, WAITERS, NURSES, SEAMSTRESSES, HOUSEKEEPERS, &c.—N. B. Positively none but nice, tidy, sober, honest, competent and obliging girls need come. Only good families and first-class servants furnished at LOWERRE'S office, No. 320 4th-av., near 25th-st.

A LADY WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN A place in a gallery to color pictures, sell cases, &c., or would color lithographs, maps, or anything in that line. Address COLORIST, Box No. 101 *Times* Office.

### MALES.

AS CLERK OR SALESMAN.—WANTED by an experienced person, a position as clerk or salesman, in a grocery or variety store. The best of reference. Address G. A. A., Box No. 166, Harlem, N. Y., or G. A. CLARKE, Box No. 155, Newport, R. I.

AS COACHMAN AND GROOM.—WANTED, by a young Englishman, a situation. He is a thorough groom and coachman; understands the care of horses well; is a very careful driver; understands waiting on table if required; is willing to make himself otherwise useful. Can give the best of reference from his last place. No objections to the country. Address J. W. W., Box No. 219, *Times* Office, or can be seen at No. 120 Hamilton-av., South Brooklyn.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY AN AMERICAN married man, to take charge of a gentleman's country residence, or could take charge of a farm; thoroughly understands taking care of cattle and horses; has no children. Address S. S., Box No. 210 *Times* Office.

WANTED—EMPLOYMENT OF ANY KIND BY A stout young man, who has had four years' experience as clerk in a first-class grocery. Address L. A. C., Box No. 134 *Times* Office.

## BOARDING AND LODGING.

A PRIVATE FAMILY HAVING AN UNOccupied furnished room on the second floor, front, would let it with board to a gentleman and his wife, or to one or two gentlemen; terms, including fire and gas, $8 per week; reference required. Apply at No. 138 East Broadway.

BOARDING.—A SINGLE GENTLEMAN DEsires a room with breakfast and tea, in a strictly private family, without other boarders; state number in family, and all particulars; children no objection. A liberal price paid if suited. Address S. R. W., Box No. 184 *Times* Office. Reference exchanged.

BOARDING.—TWO RESPECTABLE YOUNG ladies can obtain board in a private family, by applying at No. 526 Broome-st.

A PRIVATE FAMILY, LIVING NEAR 45th-av., on Murray Hill, wish to board, educate and take the entire care of a family of children, of liberal means, or let, with a private table, the entire second floor of an elegant first-class house. For terms, &c., address Box No. 2,712 Post-office.

A SMALL PRIVATE FAMILY, WISHING to reduce their expenses, will accommodate two gentlemen and their wives with rooms, on second floor, and board; also, can accommodate two or three single gentlemen: house first-class, having all the modern improvements. Apply at No. 134 Amity-st., Brooklyn.

ELEVENTH-STREET.—NO. 183 WEST 11TH-ST.—A nice parlor, with bedroom adjoining, if required; contains modern improvements, nicely carpeted and furnished; one square room front; one single room; to let reasonable. Good location. Dinner at 6. References exchanged.

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WISHES A small bedroom, for the Winter, if suited, with breakfast and dinner or tea, in a private family, no objection to French or Spanish, between 12th and 30th sts., and 2d and 7th avs. Address, stating particulars, F. L., Box No. 79 New-York Post-office.

A SUITE OF FURNISHED PARLORS ON first floor, with private table only, or without board; also, desirable upper rooms for gentlemen, without board, to let on satisfactory terms, at No. 371 4th-st., near Lafayette-place.

APARTMENTS WITH BOARD WANTED in a strictly private family, with water, gas, fire, and plenty of closet, for a family with nurse and two children. Price not to exceed $40 per calendar month. Address NOTARY, Passport Office, No. 35 Wall-st., rear building.

WANTED—PRIVATE BOARD FOR A GENTLEman, his wife and daughter. Terms must be moderate, and location between 5th and 7th avs., and 21st and 28th sts. Address S. H., Box No. 174 *Times* Office.

## STATIONERY.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST INK.
AMERICAN UNION INK, jet black, flows freely, and does not corrode. Sold at No. 5 Ludlow-st., and at the stationers generally. JESSE G. KEYS.

SLOTE & JANES,
Stationers, Printers and Blank Book Manufacturers, No. 63 Fulton-st. Orders respectfully solicited.

DIARIES FOR 1862—ALL SIZES AND styles, for sale by the publishers,
FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 Maiden-lane.

CHAPPED HANDS AND LIPS
Cured in a few hours, and the skin made delicately Soft and white by the use of
TADMAN & CO'S
CAMPHOR CAKE WITH GLYCERINE:
It requires no artificial heat in applying, as it dissolves Readily when applied to the skin.
No. 83 Bleecker-st. and No. 380 4th-av. By mail 25 cents

## DRY GOODS.

BALMORAL SKIRTS AND HOOPS
Of every kind, at low prices, during the Holidays.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 Broadway.
Nos. 255 to 261 Grand-st.
Nos. 47 and 49 Catharine-st.

OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF CLOAKS,
INCLUDING BLACK CLOTH AND VELVET CLOAKS in great variety, will be offered on MONDAY, Dec. 30, will be continued, and during the Holidays,
BELOW COST!!!
A large lot of FANCY CLOTH CLOAKS, at the following low prices:
100 Fancy Cloth Cloaks at $3, formerly $6
200 Fancy Cloth Cloaks at $3 50, formerly $8.
100 Fancy Cloth Cloaks at $7, formerly $13.
100 Fancy Cloth Cloaks at $8, formerly $20.
50 Fancy Cloth Cloaks at $14, formerly $25.
ALSO,
One case RICH EMBROIDERED VELVET CLOAKS and short SAQUES, of the prevailing Paris styles, received per steamer *Europa*,
SUITABLE FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
will be sold at less than the cost of importation, owing to the advanced season.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

PARIS KID GLOVES AT 62½ CENTS.
500 DOZEN LADIES' PARIS KID GLOVES,
RETAILED AT 62½ CENTS PER PAIR.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.

RICH PARIS DRESS SILKS,
SUITABLE FOR PROMENADE, DINNER, CARRIAGE and EVENING DRESSES.
VERY CHOICE STYLES—CHEAP!
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

GENTLEMEN'S TIES, SCARFS, HDKFS.,
GLOVES, HOSIERY, SILK AND WOOL DRAWERS, &c., &c.
LARGE ASSORTMENT—CHEAP!
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

EMBROIDERIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS,
IN SETS, COLLARS, HANDKERCHIEFS, CAPS, WAISTS, &c., &c.
Also, low-priced and
RICH LACES IN GREAT VARIETY.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

TARLETONS FOR EVENING DRESSES,
SPANGLED, EMBROIDERED AND PLAIN, at one-third
THE COST OF IMPORTATION.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.

FASHIONABLE DRESS GOODS.
AN IMMENSE ASSORTMENT AT low prices.
FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY.
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

F. DERBY & COMPANY,
TAILORS,
No. 57 Walker-street.
Will open on Monday a large variety of
BALL AND DRESS WAISTCOATINGS,
comprising Embroidered Cassimeres,
Cevatian Wool, and
French Cashmeres,
at very reduced prices.
The Public and the Trade supplied during the Holidays by the pattern or yard.

FASHIONABLE CLOAKS.
At reduced prices.
FRENCH BEAVER CLOAKS,
HEAVY ESQUIMAUX BEAVER CLOAKS,
MOSCOW BEAVER CLOAKS AND WRAPPERS
ELEGANT LYONS VELVET CLOAKS,
PLUSH AND LIONSKIN CLOAKS, in a great variety.
All new styles, at retail, at reduced prices.
E. S. MILLS & CO.,
No. 413 Broadway, near Canal-st.

BARGAINS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
IN CHEAP DRESS GOODS,
CLOAKS, SHAWLS, HANDKERCHIEFS,
LACE AND MUSLIN CURTAINS, &c.,
BLANKETS, &c., &c.,
At Nos. 108 and 110 6th-av.
C. G. HOOK.

NO. 759 BROADWAY.
PRESENTS FOR ALL SEASONS.
And the most agreeable favors for ladies are
TUCKER'S
BRIDAL SETS AND VEILS,
Commencing at $5.
Flowers, for decorative purposes, 12 cents per bunch.

A CARD.
W. JACKSON, No. 551 Broadway, calls special attention to his general stock of family MOURNING GOODS, being, without exception, the largest, most desirable and cheapest ever offered at retail.
N. B.—Full suits made up, in the best style, on short notice.

HAPPY NEW-YEAR.
AT MACY'S.
ALL THE BALANCE OF OUR CHRISTMAS TOYS, CHINA ORNAMENTS,
Fancy Boxes, now closing at cost and
Less than cost, to clear them out by
New-Year's.
Everybody made happy at MACY'S.
Full stock or Ribbons, closing low.
Complete stock of French and Scotch Embroideries, Bands, Flouncings, Needle Work Handkerchiefs, Points, Collars, Guipure Collars, Thread Veils, Coiffures, Barbes, Sleeves, Capes, Night-Caps; Dress Caps, Head Dresses, Fancy Fans, French Flowers, Ladies' Made-Up Under-clothing, &c., closing at prices Certain to make everybody happy.
Full stock of Gents' Handkerchiefs, plain and Hem-Stitched and colored Bordered.
Full stock of Hosiery, Gloves and Under-Wear.
Splendid assortment of
Embroidered Lace Curtains,
Embroidered Lace for Curtains, by the yard,
Nottingham Lace Curtains,
Nottingham Laces for Curtains, by the yard,
Tidies, &c., adapted to the New-Year.
NOW OPENING:
1,000 dozen white, light colors, mode colors and blacks of our celebrated Kid Gloves, 63 cents a pair.
R. H. MACY,
Nos. 204 and 206 6th-av., 2d door below 14th-st.

HOLIDAY FURNISHING GOODS.
PARISIAN SCARFS and TIES,
WHITE RINGWOOD GLOVES.
DRESSING ROBES and SMOKING JACKETS,
ELEGANT SILK UMBRELLAS,
SHAKER-KNIT UNDERSHIRTS and DRAWERS,
SILK, MERINO, COTTON, LAMBSWOOL, and
CANTON FLANNEL UNDERSHIRTS and DRAWERS,
SHIRTS and COLLARS,
SILK and SATIN STOCKS, NAPOLEON TIES,
MILITARY STOCKS, &c., at the Shirt and Collar Dépôt,
Nos. 87 and 89 William-st., one door north of Maiden-lane.
THEODORE C. GRANNIS, Agent.

CLOAKS! CLOAKS! CLOAKS!
NEW AND FASHIONABLE GARMENTS,
MANUFACTURED EXPRESSLY
FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON.
No lady should purchase without examining
OUR NEW STOCK.
We guarantee our prices fully 30 per cent. less than Broadway and Canal-st. houses ask for old and undesirable styles. Also, a large stock of misses' and children's cloaks.
W. K. PRYTON,
EXCELSIOR CLOAK HOUSE,
No. 274 Bowery, near Houston-st.

RICH NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS,
Per steamer *Arago*.
NOVELTIES IN RICH SILKS,
FOR
Reception, Promenade and Evening,
REAL INDIA CAMEL'S HAIR SHAWLS,
ELEGANT LACES AND EMBROIDERIES,
CLOTH AND VELVET CLOAKS,
RUSSIA AND HUDSON'S BAY SABLE CAPES, MUFFS, CUFFS, &c., &c.
A. T. STEWART & CO.

SILKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
GREAT BARGAINS IN FANCY DRESS SILKS
Will be offered, on MONDAY, Dec. 30,
AT 75c., 87½c. and $1 PER YARD,
To CLOSE the balance of our FALL IMPORTATION.
A. T. STEWART & CO.

PLAIN BLACK
TAFFETAS.
An extra assortment, in all prices and qualities, and of the most approved makes, will be offered on Monday, Dec. 30, at very low prices.
A. T. STEWART & CO.

BALMORAL SKIRTS.
An elegant assortment just received,
IN ALL COLORS AND FULL WIDTHS,
For sale at Popular Prices,
A. T. STEWART & CO.

## DRY GOODS.

FASHIONABLE HOLIDAY GOODS.
ELEGANT DRESS SHIRTS,
With French Embroidered Bosoms.
THREE AND FOUR-PLY LINEN COLLARS,
Holiday Styles now ready.
SILK, WOOL, MERINO AND COTTON
Under Shirts and Drawers.
GAUNTLETS AND GLOVES,
Some New Sty
ROBES DE CHAMBRE,
Elegant and New Styles.
UNION RIDING BELTS,
For Equestrians.
GYMNASTIC GOODS,
Approved Styles.
LADIES' AND MISSES' GAITERS,
Velvet, Cloth and Knitted.
KNIT HOODS, SONTAGS AND CAPS,
Fashionable Colors and Styles.
RINGWOOD GLOVES,
White and Colored.
NEGLIGEE SHIRTS,
For Traveling.
SUSPENDERS.
UMBRELLAS,
&c., &c.
A large and elegant variety of the above goods, entirely new and choice styles,

# FINANCIAL.

## DIVIDEND NOTICE.

OFFICE
GREAT WESTERN
MARINE
INSURANCE COMPANY,
Grea[t]ern Buildings, Nos. 31 and 33 Pine-st.,
NEW-YORK.

THE USUAL SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST DIVIDEND of 3½ per cent. on the $1,000,000 Cash Capital Stock of this Company, will be paid at this office, on and after [illegible], 1862. Transfer books will be closed from [illegible] after the 30th inst.

DOUGLAS ROBINSON, Secretary.

THIRD [illegible] SAVINGS BANK,
Corner [illegible] and 29th-st.
1854.
Six per Cent. [illegible] allowed on all sums from $1 to $1,000.
DEPOSITS WILL DRAW INTEREST FROM JAN. 1,
Bank open daily from 10 to 3, also on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 6 to 8 o'clock.
SPENCER K. GREEN, President.
STEPHEN S. CHILDS, Secretary.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

CONTRACTORS' BILLS
For Army and Navy supplies collected cheaply and expeditiously, or purchased on favorable terms, by
LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON,
Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st., New-York

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY—NEW-YORK, Dec. 5, 1861.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, held at their Office in New-York this day, it was

*Resolved*, That an assessment of FIVE DOLLARS per share upon the Scrip Shares of the Capital Stock of the Company, be and the same is hereby called payable on the twentieth day of January, 1862; and that the same be payable on the Stock registered in the City of New-York at the Office of the Company in that City; and on the Stock registered in London at the Office of Messrs. ROBERT BENSON & Co., London; and that parties desiring to pay their assessment in London, may pay the same at a rate of exchange sufficient to produce five dollars per share to the Company in the City of New-York.

*Resolved*, That the transfer books be closed on the afternoon of the 16th January next, and reopened on the 20th day of the same month; and that no transfer be permitted on or after that day of shares upon which the foregoing assessment shall not have been paid.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

The eighty-dollar certificates to be returned on payment of the above.

NOTICE.—THE BANK OF MONTREAL HAVING established an agency at Chicago, is prepared to do a general Banking business, and, in connection therewith, will attend to the collection of commercial paper in all accessible points throughout the West. Collections in interior points will be at the risk of owners, care being used in selecting the most reliable medium.

CHICAGO, Oct. 10, 1861. E. W. WILLARD, Agent.

Referring to the above, we are prepared to draw, purchase and collect upon Chicago on favorable terms.

We also purchase and collect upon the Canadas, and issue drafts and credits upon the various branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Union Bank of London.

RICHARD BELL and A. GRILLIE,
No. 22 Pine-st.,
Agents for the Bank of Montreal, New-York.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Dec. 16, 1861.—THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the Office of the Company, Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, January 8, 1862, for the election of eleven Directors, and for the transaction of important business relating to the purchase of that part of the Springfield, Mount Vernon and Pittsburgh Railroad lying between Delaware, Ohio, and Springfield, Ohio, and other business. The transfer books will be closed on the 27th inst., and remain closed until the 9th January next. By order of the Board of Directors.

GEORGE H. RUSSELL, Secretary.

FIFTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.—BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held at their office, No. 16 Merchants' Exchange, New-York, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861, it was—

*Resolved*, That the usual Dividend of Ten (10) per cent. be paid upon the capital stock of the Company, on and after the 2d day of January next, out of the profits for the last six months, leaving a balance of said earnings of 3½ per cent., which is added to the surplus fund.

By order,
WM. F. LEGGETT, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE CO., No. 11 Wall-st., New-York, Dec. 18, 1861.—THE STOCKHOLDERS ARE HEREBY notified that a Semi-Annual Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent. has been declared, and will be payable on and after the first Monday in January next.

The election of Directors for the ensuing year will also be held on the same day. Polls open from 12 M. to 2 P. M. This Company continues to insure, as usual, on the most [illegible]
[illegible], Secretary.

[illegible] Co.,
[illegible] Company, [illegible] ELIS
[illegible]ay at the close of business on the 18th day of January, 1862, will be entitled to Canceled Bonds Scrip for five dollars upon each share of stock held by them deliverable on or after the 1st day of February next; and parties holding certificates are hereby notified to have the same registered in their own names on or before the said 15th day of January.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

WESTERN VERMONT RAILROAD.—PURsuant to the order of the Court of Chancery of the State of Vermont, a Dividend of Three and one-Half (3½) per cent. on the principal of the First Mortgage Bonds upon said Railroad, will be said at the Mechanics' Bank, in the City of New-York, on and after the 1st day of January, 1862, to the order of such persons as shall have proved their bonds.

SHEPERD KNAPP, } Trustees.
GEORGE BRIGGS, }

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION—NO. 96 WARREN-ST.—Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on sums from $1 to $500, and 5 per cent. on sums over that amount. Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. Also on Monday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, from 4 to 7 P. M.

JOHN CASTREE, President.
WILLIAM M. PUBLIS, } Vice-Presidents.
SYLVANUS S. WARD, }
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

BANK OF NEW-YORK.—THE BOARD OF Directors of the Bank of New-York have this day declared a Dividend of Three per Cent. on the capital stock of the Bank, for the current six months, payable to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January next. The books of transfer will be closed from this date to the 6th day of January,
W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.
DEC. 17, 1861.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BANK, No 163 BOWERY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 25, 1861.—AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this institution, for the ensuing year, and for three Inspectors for the next ensuing election, will be held at the Banking house, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1862. Po ll will be open from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M.

GEO. W. YOUK, Cashier.

BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1861.—TWENTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMIannual dividend of (5) Five per Cent., on the Capital Stock of this Bank, from the earnings of the current six months, will be paid on and after the 2d day of January, 1862. The transfer books will remain closed until that date. By order.

J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

THE PARK BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.—THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK HAVE this day declared the usual Semi-annual Dividend of Four Per Cent., payable on and after the 10th of January, 1862. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 1st to the 10th of January.
CHAS. A. MACY, Cashier.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK, CHATHAM-SQUARE.—Receives deposits from 25 cents to $5,000. Six per cent. interest allowed on sums of $500 and under. This Bank has received during the past year $46,570 67 more than it has paid out.

M. D. VAN PELT, President.
JOSEPH P. COOPER, Secretary.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, No. 561 and 563 Broadway, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1861.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS Bank have declared a dividend of three (3) per cent., payable on and after the 2d day of January next, until which date the transfer books will be closed.

A. MASTERTON, Cashier.

CONTINENTAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1861.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CONTINENTAL BANK have this day declared a dividend of Three Per Cent., payable on and after MONDAY, Jan. 6, 1862. The transfer books will be closed from Dec. 28 to Jan. 6, inclusive.
E. W. MALMAN, Assistant Cashier.

INTEREST NOTICE.—THE COUPONS ON THE first mortgage bonds of the Joliet and Chicago Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid on presentation at the office of Messrs. M. K. Jesup & Co., No. 44 Exchange-place, on and after Jan. 2.
T. B. BLACKSTONE,
President.

DIVIDEND.—OFFICE OF THE MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 65 Wall-st., New-York, Dec. 26, 1861.—The Board of Directors of this Company have to-day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. (5) for six months, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1862.
JOHN BAKER, Secretary.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE [illegible] York, Providence and Boston Railroad Company [illegible] day declared a Dividend of (2½) Two and Half [illegible] payable on and after the 2d of January next, at [illegible] M. MORGAN & SON, No. 37 William-st.
[illegible], Dec, 26, 1861.

[illegible] WARD BANK.—NEW-YORK, DEC. [illegible]—FIFTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—The Presi[illegible] [illegible]rs have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) [illegible] Cent., payable to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January, 1862. By order of the Board,
A. S. FRASER, Cashier.

[illegible]ERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS Bank have this day declared a dividend of Three and one-half [illegible] cent., payable on and after the 6th day of January next.
SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier,

COLLECTIONS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.—Claims [illegible] Departments, Quartermasters' [illegible] [illegible]ble in Washington, D. C., collected [illegible] on reasonable terms by
[illegible] CO., No. 56 Wall-st.

# FINANCIAL.

## UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK,

No. 4?0 CANAL, CORNER OF VARICK-ST.
Open daily from 10 A. M. to 2, and from 5 to 7 P. M.
Deposits received on or before Jan. 30 will draw interest from the 1st inst.
6 *per cent. interest allowed on all sums of $500 and under, and 5 per cent. on larger amounts.*
THIS BANK HAS OPENED [illegible] ACCOUNTS, AND RECEIVED ON DEPOSIT [illegible] IN THE PAST 30 [illegible]
E. V. HAUG[illegible], President.
GARDNER S. CHAPIN, Secretary.

ST. LOUIS, AL[illegible]CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANY.
[illegible], Ill., Dec. 27, 1861.
Holders [illegible] made to the undersigned by the [illegible] Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad Company, are hereby requested to present the same at the [illegible] LEE BROTHERS, of New-York, on or before the 1st day of January next, and receive the interest due on them for the year 1861.

JAMES ROBB, Receiver.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT TREASURER OF THE UNITED STATES, NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.—HOLDERS OF FIVE TWENTY YEARS' TREASury Notes, bearing interest at six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, issued under the Act of the 2d of March, 1861, are informed that the interest on such Notes to the 1st of January, 1862, will be paid at this office after that day, provided that such Notes, with a schedule signed by the holder thereof, showing the number, date and amount of each note, together with the interest due thereon to said 1st of January, are lodged here three days beforehand for verification and stamping.

JOHN J. CISCO, Assistant Treasurer U. S.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT TREASURER OF THE UNITED STATES, NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1861.—UNITED STATES THREE YEARS 7-10 per cent. bonds, dated Oct. 1, 1861, are now ready to be issued at this office in exchange for gold coin or United States demand notes. In addition to the principal the purchaser will be required to pay the accrued interest upon said bonds up to the date of issue inclusive.

JOHN J. CISCO,
Assistant Treasurer United States.

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS ADJUSTED.
Claims upon the War and Navy Departments; the Treasury; Pension, Land and Census Bureaux; and the accounts of Army, Navy and Mail Contractors adjusted in person by our resident agent in Washington,
Hon. HORATIO KING,
late Postmaster-General of the United States.
JOHN B. MURRAY, Army and Navy Banker,
No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.
Claims are made up and forwarded to Washington daily.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY, TONTINE BUILDINGS, No. 88 WALL-ST. NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1861.—NINETEENTH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF Directors of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Six per Cent. out of the earnings of the Road, for the six months ending 31st inst., payable to stockholders or their legal representatives on and after the 2d of January next. The transfer books will be closed from this day until the morning of Monday, the 6th of January.

HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—MANHATTAN SAVINGS INSTITUTION—Dec. 26, 1861.—Interest will be paid on all deposits in this Institution (by the rules entitled thereto) at the rate of Six Per Cent. per annum, on all sums of $500 and under, and at the rate of Five Per Cent. per annum on all sums over that amount, payable on and after Jan. 20, 1862. Interest will be credited under date of Jan. 1st, and if not withdrawn will receive interest the same as a deposit. By order

E. J. BROWN, President.
A. L. ALVORD, Secretary.

BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1861.—NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR seven Directors of this Bank, and for three Inspectors of the next succeeding election, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next. The poll will open at 1 o'clock and close at 2 P. M. By order of the Board.

R. P. PERRIN, Cashier.

MARINERS' SAVINGS BANK, NO. 1 Grand-av., opposite the Cooper Institute. Deposits made on or before the 11th of January will bear interest from the 1st of January.

BANK OPEN DAILY from 9 to 2 P. M. and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS from 5 to 8 o'clock. THOS. B. STILLMAN, President.
ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

BANK OF AMERICA—DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of (3½) Three and One-half per Cent. for the current six months, ending Dec. 31, which will be paid to the stockholders on and after THURSDAY, the 2d day of January next. The transfer books will remain closed until the 6th day of January. By order of the Board.

WM. L. JENKINS, Cashier.

NEW-YORK & HARLEM RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER 4TH-AV. AND 26TH-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.—INTEREST COUPONS OF THE THIRD Mortgage Bonds, Bonds of 1872, and Sinking Fund Bonds, will be paid on and after Jan. 1 at the Treasurer's Office.

W. H. EMERSON, Treasurer.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BANK, JERSEY CITY, Dec. 31, 1861.—SEVENTEENTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANnual Dividend of Four (4) per Cent. out of the earnings of the current six months, will be paid to the stockholders on and after MONDAY, Jan. 6, 1862. By order of the Board.

J. S. FOX, Cashier.

METROPOLITAN BANK, NO. 108 BROADWAY.—NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1861.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of the Metropolitan Bank have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of 3 (three) Per Cent., payable on the first Monday of January next (6th proximo.) The Transfer Books will remain closed until the 9th January prox.

GEO. I SENEY, Cashier.

MARKET BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1861.—AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this Bank for the ensuing year, and for three Inspectors of election, will be held at the Banking House, on MONDAY, the 13th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock. The transfer books will be closed until that date.

R. BAYLES, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK.—THE Stockholders of this institution are hereby notified that an election for directors for the ensuing year and for inspectors of the then next election will be held in the Banking-house on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next, between 12 and 1 o'clock.

J. D. VERMILYE, Cashier.

BANK OF THE COMMONWEALTH—New-York, Dec. 27, 1861.—The Board of Directors of the Bank of the Commonwealth have this day declared a dividend of three per cent., payable on and after Monday, Jan. 6, 1862. The transfer books will be closed from this date to Jan. 6 inclusive.

GEORGE ELLIS, Cashier.

AN ELECTION OF FIVE TRUSTEES OF the NEW-YORK BALANCE DOCK COMPANY will be held at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M., on the second WEDNESDAY of January next.—Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.

JAS. B. NICHOLSON, Secretary.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD COMPANY.—INTEREST ON BONDS.—The coupons due Jan. 1, 1862, on the mortgage bonds of this Company, will be paid after that day at the Bank of the State of New-York, New-York.

WM. S. S. RUSSELL, Treasurer.
HUNTER'S POINT, Dec. 28, 1861.

ROSEHILL SAVINGS BANK, CORNER of 14th-st. and 8th-av., open daily from 1 to 5 P. M. Wednesdays and Saturdays until 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest on all sums of $500 and under. Interest allowed from the 1st of January. THOS. CHRISTY, President.
RICH. H. BULL, Secretary.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Coupons due 1st of January, 1862, on $400,000 first mortgage bonds of that Company will be paid after that day at the office of

SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

NOTICE.—THE COUPONS ON SECOND MORTgage Bonds of the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska Railroad, due January 1, will be paid at Webster Bank or at my office, No. 114 State-st. Boston, Dec. 30, 1861.

CHAS. A. LAMBARD, Treasurer.

NOTICE.—THE NEW-YORK BALANCE DOCK Company has this day declared a dividend of four per cent. payable at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., on and after the 4th January next. New-York, December 30, 1861.

WM. MENZIES, Treasurer.

STATE OF MICHIGAN INTEREST.—THE Interest due on Michigan State Bonds, 1st January, 1862, will be paid after that date at the Metropolitan Bank, by

JOHN OWEN, Treasurer.

THE COUPONS OF THE JACKSON County (Ohio) Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid at the Ocean Bank after that date

CHAS. PALMER, Assistant Cashier.

APPROVED BILLS FOR SUPPLIES FURnished the War and Navy Departments cashed by
JOHN B. MURRAY,
No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

THE COUPONS OF THE PICKAWAY County (Ohio) Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid at the Park Bank after that date.

M. BROWN, Agent.

INCOME BONDS BUFFALO STATE LINE RAILROAD COMPANY cashed by H. T. MORGAN & CO., William-st., at 98 cents.

# LEGAL NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF THE Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against MALTBY GELSTON, late of the City of New-York, gentleman, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at the office of Henry R. Winthrop, Esq., No. 51 William-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 10th day of January next.—Dated New-York, July 1, 1861.

MARGARET L. GELSTON, Executrix.
MARY J. GELSTON, Executrix.
jy2—1aw-6mTu.

# PUBLIC NOTICES.

OFFICE OF RESERVES OF TAXES, Dec. 19, 1861.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL parties in arrears for taxes of the current year, that the same must be paid before the 1st day of January next.

All taxes remaining unpaid on that day will be subject to a penalty at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum from the 30th of September last. JAMES KELLY, Receiver.

# COAL, &c.

RED AND WHITE ASH COAL, OF THE first qualities, consisting of genuine Peach Orchard, Lehigh and Locust Mountain, properly screened; also Liverpool Orrel and Cannel, of recent importations—all at lowest market prices. HENRY REEVE,
Corner Canal and Centre and corner Jane and West sts.

FOR SALE AT GREAT SACRIFICE, A heating apparatus, consisting of boiler and number of Gould's radiators; have been used but a short time and will be disposed of without regard to cost, to suit the times. Apply or address No. 158 Market-st., Newark, N. J.

# MEDICAL.

AFFLICTED RESTORED! IGNORANCE EXPOSED! FALLACIES UNMASKED!
HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH SEXES, married or single, in health or disease. DR. LARMONT'S Paris, London and New-York Medical Adviser and Marriage Guide. (56th edition, 400 pages, 100 Anatomical Illustrations,) upon Mental and Nervous Debility, Loss of Memory, Incapacity, Urinary Deposits, Seminal Loss of Semen, nights, with the urine, or at stool, Tenesmy, Affections of the Bladder and Kidneys, Gleet, Gonorrhœa, Syphilis, primary and constitutional, &c.

Among its contents is the anatomy of the sexual [illegible] of the male and female—all their diseases and [illegible] latest discoveries in reproduction [illegible] Medical Practice; quacks, advertisers, [illegible] and specifics the author's unequaled Parisian treatment, &c.

All who would avoid unsuccessful and [illegible] treatment with Mercury, Copaiba, Injections, [illegible] Quack Specifics, Antidotes, Instruments, [illegible] purchase this valuable work, for $1, of [illegible], No. 1 Vesey-st., 1858 & FOUREY, No. [illegible]; E. DEXTER & CO., No. 138 Nassau-st., New-York; and DE WITT, No. 13 Frankfort-st.; or [illegible] Boston, at No. 647 Broadway, (up stairs,) New-York, from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

"We concur with other papers in [illegible]ing Dr. LARMONT and his work."—*Queen of the Rural Vale, German Die Reform, Dispatch, Stranger, Sunday Mercury, National Democrat, Atlas, Medical Review, &c.*

NERVOUS AND SPECIAL DISEASES, MARRIAGE, &c.
By C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., late Professor of Special Pathology in the Syracuse Medical College, New-York. Price $1. GODFREY, Bookseller, [illegible] Broadway, or of the author, at No. 686 Broadway.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETters patent of England, and [illegible] by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TRIESEMAR No. 1 is the effectual remedy for RELAXATION, DIARRHŒA, DYSENTORRHŒA and EXHAUSTION OF THE SEXUAL ORGANS. TRIESEMAR No. 2 completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders for which Copaiva and Cubebs have generally been thought an antidote, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TRIESEMAR No. 3 is the great and sure remedy of the civilized world for all impurities of the system, as well as secondary symptoms; obviating the destructive use of Mercury, as well as other deleterious ingredients, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. They are in the form of a lozenge, and may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected. Sold in tin cases at $3 each, or four $3 cases in one for $9, and in $27 cases, thus saving $9, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. Wholesale and retail by Dr. H. A. BARROW, No. 194 Bleecker-st., (entrance from Macdougal-st.,) New-York. Immediately on receipt of remittance, forwarded to any part of the world. Attendance and consultation from 11 to 2, and from 4 till 8 in the evening, and on Sunday till 11. Triesemar can also be obtained, by authority of Dr. Barrow, from

WELLS & CO.,
No. 115 Franklin-st., New-York,
And J. WORTHINGTON,
No. 206 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

"NEW MEDICAL BOOK.—DR. BOSTWICK'S Work on Seminal Diseases, Hints Before and After Marriage, Nervous Debility, Impotency and Kindred Affections, &c., &c., is before us, and we do not hesitate to say it is without exception the most truthful and useful work of the kind ever published. It will be hailed by the profession as well as the public as a great benefactor to mankind. Quackery is here exposed and the truth told. It should be in every family, and in the hands of every young man and woman in the land."—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

Mailed by Richardson, No. 1 Vesey-st.; Godfrey's, No. 831 Broadway; and by Dr. B at his office, No. 30 East 12th-st., six doors west of Broadway, where Dr. B. will continue the practice of medicine and surgery. Price $1. All interviews and communications strictly confidential.

SURE CURE.—DR. POWERS, SUCCESSFULLY consulte[illegible] with Dr. WARD, No. 12 Laight-st. He gives advice free, and guarantees an immediate cure or no pay. Glorious triumph of modern science. Dr. P. has pure specific remedies for syphilitic, mercurial and all other delicate diseases; for certainty unapproached, and for the entire eradication of disease, nothing besides can positively be relied upon; try them and be convinced. Dr. POWERS' Essence of Life restores the vigor of youth in four weeks. This marvelous agent restores manhood to the most shattered constitutions. Office No. 12 Laight-st. Dr. POWERS' French Preventive, the greatest invention of the age. Those who have used them are never without them. Price, $3 per dozen; mailed free on receipt of the price. Address Dr. POWERS, No. 12 Laight-st.

DR. COBBETT, MEMBER OF THE N. Y. University, (Medical College,) and Royal College of Surgeons, London, has removed from No. 19 Duane-st., to his present very convenient suite of offices at No. 20 Centre-st., between Chambers and Reade sts., with a private entrance at No. 6 City Hall-place, where he can be consulted with the most honorable confidence on all diseases affecting the urinary organs; thirty years in his present specialty, (three of which have been at the Hospitals of this City,) enable him to guarantee a cure in every case undertaken, or make no charge. Stricture of the urethra, impotency, seminal weaknesses, &c., treated on the most scientific principles. N. B.—As a proof of Dr. C.'s qualifications, he would call special attention to his Diplomas, which can be seen in his office.

DR. COOPER, NO. 14 DUANE-ST. MAY BE confidently consulted on all diseases of a private nature. A practice of 30 years, devoted to the treatment and cure of Syphilitic, Mercurial, and diseases of a delicate nature, enables Dr. C. to make speedy and permanent cures, no matter of how long standing the case may be. Strictures of the urethra and seminal weakness, brought on by a secret habit, effectually cured. The victims of misplaced confidence, who have been misled by quack advertisements, can call on Dr. C. with the certainty of being restored to health. Dr. C. is a qualified physician and surgeon, and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New-York. Office hours from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M.

IMPORTANT TO THE MARRIED AND those about to be married.—Dr. M. RACHELEAU, Professor of Diseases of [illegible], has published "THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PRIVATE MEDICAL COMPANION," strictly intended for those whose health or circumstances forbid a too rapid increase of family. Price $1. Sold at his office, No. 129 Liberty-st., New-York; or can be sent by mail free of postage, to any part of the United States and Canada, by inclosing $1, and addressing Box No. 1,224 New-York City. For sale by H. RICHARDSON, at No. 1 Vesey-st., (Astor House,) and No. 18 Ann-st.

AN ACT OF GRATITUDE.—20,000 COPIES of a medical book for gratuitous circulation, by a Sufferer, who has been effectually cured of nervous debility, loss of memory, and dimness of sight, resulting from early errors, by following the instructions given in a medical work, considers it his duty, in gratitude to the author, and for the benefit of consumptives and nervous sufferers, to publish the means used. He will, therefore, send free to any address, on receipt of two stamps, a copy of the work, containing every information required. Address Box No. 579 Post-office, Albany, N. Y.

EDWARD H. DIXON, M. D., EDITOR OF the Scalpel, and Operating and Consulting Surgeon, No. 42 5th-av. Office consultations on the most obscure diseases of the pelvic viscera. Rupture, piles, varicocele, and fistula, radically cured without the knife or ligature. Office hours from 8 to 9, 1 to 3, and 7 to 9 evenings. Consultation fee, $5.

HO, YOUNG MAN!—YOU CAN NEVER BE cured by medicine. What you need is information. Knowledge is power. Read a tract I will send you for a dime, (no stamps,) and learn how you may avoid ruin without a doctor. LA ROY SUNDERLAND, Boston, Mass.

SOMETHING FOR EVERY LADY.—DR. WARD'S Great Benefactor. The great periodical remedy, infallible for the immediate removal of monthly obstructions. Office No. 12 Laight-st., near Canal, where Dr. WARD can be consulted confidentially, day or evening.

PRIVATE CONSULTATION.—DR. HUNTER has, for thirty years, confined his attention to diseases of a certain class, in which he has treated no less than fifty thousand cases, without an instance of failure. His great remedy, HUNTER'S RED DROP, cures certain diseases when regular treatment and all other remedies fail; cures without dieting or restriction in the habits of the patient; cures without the disgusting and sickening effects of all other remedies; cures in new cases in less than six hours; cures without the dreadful consequent effects of mercury, but possesses the peculiarly valuable property of annihilating the rank and poisonous taint that the blood is sure to absorb, unless his remedy is used. This is what he claims for it, and what no other will accomplish. Its value in this respect has become so well known, that scientific men in every department of medical knowledge begin to appreciate it, for it is a well passes that he is not consulted by druggists, chemists and physicians in regard to some pitiful patient, who has exhausted the whole field of the faculty, and still the disease will appear. Its popularity is so great, that there is not a quack doctor in the City that has not attacked it; and when they find their lies are not so easily swallowed, they then pretend that they can make it. It is $1 a vial, and cannot be obtained genuine anywhere but at the old office, No. 3 Division-st. Book for 15 three cent stamps, 300 pages, 100 colored illustrations. The best work out.

# STEAMBOATS.

SHREWSBURY—DECEMBER AND JANUARY S.—HIGHLANDS, FORT WASHINGTON, MOUNT'S AND BROWN'S DOCK, FAIRHAVEN AND RED BANK.—The new and splendid steamer, HIGHLAND LIGHT, Capt. H. B. PARKER, will run as follows, from foot of Robinson-st., North River:

| LEAVE NEW-YORK. | LEAVE RED BANK. |
|---|---|
| Friday,* Dec. 13, 2 P. M. | Friday, Dec. 13, 12½ P. M. |
| Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 P. M. | Monday, Dec. 16, 7¾ A. M. |
| Monday, Dec. 16, 2 P. M. | Tuesday, Dec. 17, 8 A. M. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2¼ P. M. | Wednesday, Dec. 18, 8 A. M. |
| Thursday, Dec. 19, 9 A. M. | Friday, Dec. 20, 8¾ A. M. |
| Saturday, Dec. 21, 10¾ A. M. | Monday, Dec. 23, 8¾ A. M. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 24, 9 A. M. | Tuesday, Dec. 24, 12¾ P. M. |
| Wednesday, Dec. 25, 9 A. M. | Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1¾ P. M. |
| Thursday, Dec. 26, 10 A. M. | Thursday, Dec. 26, 1¾ P. M. |
| Friday, Dec. 27, 10¾ A. M. | Friday, Dec. 27, 2 P. M. |
| Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 P. M. | Monday, Dec. 30, 7¾ A. M. |
| Monday, Dec. 30, 2 P. M. | Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 A. M. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2:20 P. M. | Thursday, Jan. 2, 8¾ A. M. |
| Friday, Jan. 3, 7 A. M. | Friday, Jan. 3, 10 A. M. |
| Saturday, Jan. 4, 11 A. M. | Monday, Jan. 6, 8¾ A. M. |

The LAURA will connect for Ocean House, Pleasure Bay and Long Branch, five minutes before HIGHLAND LIGHT.

Fare to Eatontown and Shrewsbury, by H. Johnson's stages and steamers, 35 cents through. Tickets on the boat.

TO NEW-HAVEN.—STEAMERS LEAVE AT 3 P. M. Passengers going further take the train from there at 11 P. M., or remain on board till morning.

# DANCING.

A. DODWORTH'S DANCING ACADEMIES, No. 204 Fifth-av., corner 26th-st., New-York, No. 137 Montague-st. Brooklyn.
Classes—TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS in Brooklyn.
Classes—WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS in N. Y.
Circulars for terms, &c., may be had at either Academy.

NATURAL FLOWERS.—WILLIAM FITZPATRICK, Florist, 28th-st. and Broadway, will have a splendid collection of Flowers on hand for New-Year's. A fine assortment of Baskets, in the arranging of which a new and very beautiful feature will be introduced, which will consist of placing alternately round the edge of the basket leaves of the Cissus (one of the richest variegated leaved plants known) and Poensettia Pulcherima. Give us a call and see the effect.

# PROPOSALS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, Dec. 6, 1861.—SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this office until 1 o'clock P. M. on MONDAY, the 6th day of January, 1862, for supplying the Light-house Establishment with seventy thousand gallons of the best quality, pure, Winter-strained Sperm Oil, to be divided into three lots, and to be delivered at the times undermentioned, alongside the Government supply-vessels, or at the warehouse or other place of deposit, to be designated by the Inspecting Officer or other authorized agent of the Light-house Board, in strong, tight, well-made casks, suitable for shipping, in good order, of an average capacity, each of from eighty to one hundred gallons.

Either lot or all of them may be delivered at New-York, New-London, Sag Harbor, Portland, Boston, New-Bedford, Edgartown, or Nantucket, at the option of the bidders. The place of delivery must be distinctly stated in the bids, and will be embraced in the contracts.

The three lots will de delivered as follows, viz:

Lot No. 1, (23,000) twenty-three thousand gallons on the 1st day of April, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 2, (32,000) thirty-two thousand gallons on the 1st day of June, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 3, (15,000) fifteen thousand gallons on the 1st day of October, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

No part of the oil proposed for and to be embraced in the contracts under this advertisement will be accepted, received, or paid for, until it shall have been proved to the entire satisfaction of the person or persons charged with its examination, test, and inspection, to be the best quality pure Winter strained or bagged sperm oil, free from mixture with other or inferior oils and adulterations, and that it will remain in a sufficiently fluid state for free burning in lamps at a temperature of 32° or lower of Fahrenheit's standard thermometer.

The usual means for determining the character and quality of the oil will be employed, viz: for specific gravity, by burning to determine the length of time the oil will burn in unirrimmed capillary or jacket lamps, the amount of residuum in each lamp after it burns out, and, if necessary, any proper tests to arrive at correct conclusions that may be deemed necessary.

The casks must be gauged, under the direction and personal supervision of the inspecting officer, by a custom-house or other legally authorized and sworn gauger, according to the United States standard, and must be marked and accepted before they are removed from the cellar or warehouse of the contractor.

Proposals will be received and considered for each lot separately, or for all of them, at the option of the bidder: but no bid will be considered for a less quantity than that specified as one lot, to be delivered at one time and place. Each bid must state explicitly the rate per gallon, in writing, the number of lot or lots bid for, and the time and place of delivery, conforming to this advertisement.

Bids submitted by different members of the same firm or copartnership will not be considered.

The Light-house Board, under the authority of the Department, reserves the right to reject any bid, although it may be the lowest, for other considerations than the price.

No bid will be considered for any other kind or description of oil than that specifically called for in this advertisement.

A bond, with security to the satisfaction of the Department, in a penalty equal to one-fifth of the amount of each contract made under these proposals, will be required of each contractor, conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract, to be executed within ten days after the acceptance of the bid.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, and known to the Department as such, or certified by a United States District Judge, Attorney, Navy Agent, or Collector of the Customs, to the effect that, if the bid or bids be accepted, the bidder or bidders will duly execute a contract in good faith, according to the provisions and terms of this advertisement, within ten days after acceptance; and that in case the said party or parties offering shall fail to enter into the contract as aforesaid, he or they guarantee to make good the difference between the offer of the said party or parties and the next lowest bidder. All bids must be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for oil for light-houses," and then placed in another envelope, and directed, prepaid, to the Secretary of the Light-house Board, Washington City.

All bids will be opened, publicly, at the hour and on the day specified.

Payments will be made for the several lots of oil within thirty days after they shall have been received by the United States.

By order of the Light-house Board.

THORNTON A. JENKINS, Secretary.

FORM OF OFFER.

I, (or we,) ——, State of ——, hereby offer and agree to furnish and deliver at ——, agreeably to the provisions, and in conformity to the terms, of the advertisement of the ——, from the office of the Lighthouse Board. Should —— offer or bid be accepted, —— request to be informed at ——, and that the contract may be forwarded to ——, for signature and certificate. (Signature.)

(Place.)
(Date.)

FORM OF GUARANTEE.

We, the undersigned, residents of ——, in the State of ——, hereby jointly and severally covenant with the United States, and guaranty that in case the foregoing ——, of ——, be accepted, ——, will, within ten days after the acceptance of said ——, execute a contract for the same, with good and sufficient sureties, to deliver the —— of o

## A FIGHT AT PADUCAH, KY.

### TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES SUPPRESSED.

CHICAGO, Tuesday, Dec. 30.

The Cairo operator says that a fight is going on at Paducah, Ky., to-day, but that the Adjutant-General refuses to allow reports to be sent. We will probably hear something to-morrow.

**A Slight Skirmish—Humphrey Marshall Fortifying Prestonburgh, &c.**

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Monday, Dec. 30.

The Journal has a letter from Columbia, giving an account of a slight skirmish in Adair County, in which a rebel loss was five killed, and the National none.

HUMPHREY MARSHALL, heading 6,500 troops, is fortifying Prestonburgh, and it is expected that he will soon move toward Maysville. Gen. BUELL has ordered a crusade, under Col. GARFIELD, forward, and a battle is expected very shortly.

Attachments were filed in the Chancery Court on Saturday, under the law subjecting the property of rebels to confiscation, who remain in the Southern Confederacy thirty days after its passage. Processes were issued against the property of Gen. BUCKNER, ex-Minister PRESTON and EDWARD CHRTCHFIELD, to the amount of $20,000 each, and in smaller sums against several others.

## NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

**Capture of a Water Schooner by the Rebels—Slowness of the National Gunboats—Opening Trade at Port Royal—National Prisoners to be Released, &c.**

FORTRESS MONROE, Sunday, Dec. 29, } VIA BALTIMORE, Dec. 30. }

As the steamboat *Express*, which runs between Old Point and Newport's News, was leaving the latter place this morning a rebel tugboat was seen off Sewall's Point. She wore a Commodore's blue pennant, which was mistaken at first for a flag of truce; but on the *Express* arriving within range the rebel boat fired a shot across the bows of the *Express*, which was quickly followed by several shells. The greatest consternation prevailed for a short time on board the *Express*, which was unarmed, and the schooner *Sherwood*, employed to bring water from Newport's News, which was in tow, was cut adrift. The *Sherwood* was immediately deserted by her crew, consisting of four men, who escaped by a small boat to Newport's News, and the schooner, drifting down with the tide, was taken possession of by the rebel tugboat, and towed to Craney Island. Her Captain stuck to her, and was taken prisoner.

The rebel tugboat subsequently made her appearance for a second time, but the *Express* had crowded on all steam, and had reported the circumstances to the flag-ship.

After a long delay, about half a dozen gunboats got started, and steaming toward the scene, threw a few shells into Sewall's Point and the Pig Point batteries, without producing any effect, however, so far as is known. Had it not been for the inexcusable delay in our gunboats getting to the spot, the rebel tugboat might have been intercepted and the schooner saved.

The *Sherwood* had been lined with zinc, and fitted out with a valuable force-pump for a water boat. The loss is estimated as about two thousand dollars.

The schooner belonged to Assistant-Quartermaster NOYES.

The brig *Empire*, CROSBY, sailed yesterday for Port Royal, to open trade. She took out a cargo of fresh provisions, &c.; also a balloon, and chemicals and apparatus for inflating it, consigned to Gen. SHERMAN. The balloon is under the direction of Prof. STARKWEATHER, of the Aeronautic Department, who will make ascendons in the vicinity of Beaufort.

The steam frigate *Brooklyn* arrived from the Philadelphia Navy-yard this afternoon.

A flag of truce was sent down to Norfolk this afternoon, but it brought back no news.

A note from Gen. HUGER to Gen. WOOL announces that he is ready to send 240 prisoners of war down the James River from Richmond by a flag of truce whenever they will be received.

Gen. WOOL will send a flag of truce on Thursday or Friday next, in answer thereto. No list of those to be released has yet been received by him.

## MASON AND SLIDELL.

**Reported Intention of Sending Them to Europe in the Niagara.**

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 30.

By instructions from Lord LYONS, the steamship *Niagara*, which arrived here on Saturday, will leave to-morrow (Tuesday) for Liverpool, taking out in her Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL, the rebel Commissioners.

The steamship *Persia*, now in the St. Lawrence River, will come to Boston and take the place of the *Niagara* for Wednesday, Jan. 8, the regular sailing day.

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 30—P. M.

It is by no means certain that the steamship *Niagara* will be dispatched to Liverpool with Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL on board. The agents of the *Niagara* here deny that they have instructions to that effect.

The *Niagara* took in coal to-day, to make room for the steamship *Persia*, soon expected here, and may or may not leave for Liverpool before her regular day.

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 30—3 P. M.

The agents of the Cunard steamers in this city have given orders to have the steamship *Niagara* in readiness to sail for Liverpool at noon on Tuesday, the 31st inst, but nothing has as yet been received from Lord LYONS in regard to Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL going out in her. The agents probably expect to receive some orders to that effect by mail to-morrow morning.

ANOTHER DENIAL.

Mr. CUNARD, of this City, agent of the Cunard Line of Steamers, states that the steamship *Niagara* will not sail for Liverpool until her regular day, Wednesday.

### MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, Monday, Dec. 30.

Twenty-four hundred and sixty cavalry, under Col. CARR, with fifteen days' rations, left Rolla yesterday, destined, it is supposed, for Springfield, by a circuitous route.

### THE LUMBER SWINDLE IN THE WEST.

CAIRO, Monday, Dec. 30.

The charges of swindling in the timber contract at this point has been investigated by Capt. HILLYER and substantiated. An immense quantity of lumber, purchased at $9 50 per thousand, was billed at $10 50. Other charges of fraud are undergoing investigation.

### GEN. BANKS' COMMAND.

FREDERICK, Md., Saturday, Dec. 28.

Everything is reported quiet along the river line and in camp this morning.

Notwithstanding the great uncertainty of continuing in this spot for any extended time, all the regiments are employed in building log huts and stables, for the comfort of man and beast. Some of the structures are the result of great labor, and even of rustic architectural skill, and will probably remain for years, as specimens of Yankee ingenuity and taste.

The Provost Marshal has instituted for the benefit of incorrigible prisoners, the chain gang system upon the streets. It is amusing to many to see the awkward attempts of the "incorrigibles" at street sweeping. The real benefit of this kind of punishment is doubted by some, but it is certainly a great improvement on flogging and the pillory.

The General Court-martial is still engaged upon desertion cases. On Monday some more cases will come up for trial.

### THE FEELING IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Monday, Dec. 30.

The surrender of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL and the suspension of specie payments by the banks of New-York, produced a feeling of relief in business circles here.

### COL. MULLIGAN IN ALBANY.

ALBANY, Monday, Dec. 30.

Col. MULLIGAN arrived here at 12:30 to-day. He was received by the Mayor and Common Council, and conducted to the Delavan House, where he remains during his stay as a guest of the city.

### THE MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY.

The third battalion of the First Massachusetts Cavalry, under Major JOHN H. EDSON, (old army officer,) numbering 420 horses and men, arrived yesterday morning. Both battalions are ordered from Washington to halt here until further notice. Col. FRANK E. HOWE has made arrangements to quarter the men and horses in the Third-avenue Railroad stables, Sixty-third-street. There are thus 850 men and horses of the First Massachusetts Cavalry now in this City. Col. WILLIAMS will be here to-morrow.

### ARRIVAL OF THE SECOND BATTALION FIRST MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY.

The Second Battalion of the First Massachusetts Cavalry Regiment arrived in this City from Readville, yesterday. Maj. JOHN H. EDSON was in command. The First Battalion is already at Annapolis, where it will be attached to Gen. BURNSIDE's Division. The Third Battalion arrived here last Saturday, and will remain at the Park Barracks with the Second till further orders are received from the War Department. This regiment, Col. ROBT. WILLIAMS, numbers in all nearly 1,300 men, all of whom are uniformed, armed and mounted. A list of the officers has already been published in the TIMES.

### DEPARTURE OF A COMPANY OF REGULARS FOR KEY WEST.

Company B, of the First Regiment United States Artillery, left yesterday in the steamer *Philadelphia* for Key West. For the last few days it has been encamped at the Park Barracks, having arrived from Fort McHenry, where it has been stationed since the commencement of the war.

### LOCAL MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

THE VOLUNTEER ENGINEER REGIMENT.

The three companies that were last sent out to join this regiment, Col. SERRELL, now stationed at Hilton Head, were under the command of Capt. ISRAEL G. ATWOOD, not a Major BUTTS, as was then reported.

FAIR FOR VOLUNTEERS' CHILDREN.

This Fair, which has been in operation for the past three weeks, has been very successful. On Saturday evening, many of the articles remaining unsold were offered for sale at auction. A large assortment of articles still remain on hand, and the managers have determined to dispose of them without reserve this evening.

### Suspension of Specie Payments.

THE BANKS OF BOSTON.

BOSTON, Monday, Dec. 30.

The Presidents and Directors of the Banks of this city held a meeting this morning and resolved to suspend specie payments forthwith.

THE PHILADELPHIA BANKS.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, Dec. 30.

The Banks of this city have resolved to suspend specie payments in consequence of the suspension in New-York.

THE ALBANY BANKS.

ALBANY, Monday, Dec. 30.

In consequence of the action of the New-York Banks, the Banks of this city suspended specie payments to-day. The suspension occasions no excitement.

THE PITTSBURGH BANKS.

PITTSBURGH, Penn., Monday, Dec. 30.

The news of the suspension by the Eastern Banks was not wholly unexpected here, and created little or no alarm. Our banks have not generally suspended. Three of them, it is understood, have suspended, but four are still paying specie, viz.: The Old Bank, of Pittsburgh, the Mechanics', Citizens' and Iron City.

THE CLEVELAND BANKS.

CLEVELAND, Monday, Dec. 30.

The Cleveland Banks suspended specie payment this morning.

### Arrival of the Sante Fe Mail.

KANSAS CITY, Monday, Dec. 30.

The Sante Fé mail, with dates to the 14th, has arrived. The reported massacre of twenty men by the Indians at Fort Stanton proves to be incorrect.

Memorials have been passed by the Territorial Legislature, petitioning Congress to enact laws, and make such appropriations as well as to authorize the Indian Department to select suitable lands for Indian reservations; also that New-Mexico be relieved of the payment of the amount of tax assigned to her by the late law of Congress. The law for the protection of slave property in New-Mexico was repealed by an almost unanimous vote in both Houses.

### News from San Francisco.

NEARLY A MILLION IN TREASURE ON THE WAY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, Dec. 23.

Sailed 21st, steamer *Sonora*, for Panama, with 20 cabin passengers, 125 soldiers, and $1,170,000 in treasure, of which $270,000 was for England.

SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday, Dec. 25.

Another severe rain has renewed to a considerable extent the freshets in the interior of the State. Sacramento is again partially overflowed, but without much damage this time. The central and business portions of the city were not effected.

### The Annual Elections at Princeton College.

PRINCETON, N. J., Monday, Dec. 30.

The annual elections at Princeton College have resulted as follows:

*Junior Orators*—From Clio Hall: R. W. Dayton, New-Jersey; S. A. Hoyt, New-York; James S. Deming, New-Jersey; H. W. Jackson, New-Jersey. From Whig Hall: D. R. Foster, New-York; A. H. Strickland, Pennsylvania; W. H. Smalley, New-Jersey; S. S. Striker, New-Jersey.

The class elections, for various objects have resulted in the choice of the following:

Orator, Henry L. Sampson, New-York; Poet, Harlem P. Peck, Illinois; Editors, T. E. Stearn, Pennsylvania; Joseph L. Munn, New-Jersey; H. R. W. Smith, Alabama; S. H. Pennington, Jr., New-Jersey.

### Wallack's Theatre.

The first performance of Mr. WALLACK'S contemplated series of standard comedies took place last evening, and was the occasion of what really seemed to be a fashionable demonstration. There was a time, and that not long ago, when a Wallack audience could be distinguished from any other, but the sensational drama unhappily leveled it to the common standard. Last evening it seemed as if all the old forces had returned to their allegiance with the determination to bear the veteran triumphantly through the season. GOLDSMITH'S play of "She Stoops to Conquer," was given, and with a distribution which included all the leading artists of the establishment. It would be more than a twice-told tale to dwell at any length upon the performances of Mr. LESTER WALLACK as *Young Marlow*; Mr. BLAKE as *Hardcastle*; or Mr. REYNOLDS as *Hastings*. They were, as heretofore, excellent, and gave to the piece—which lacks serious interest—the lightness, flippancy and temper it required. Mr. GEORGE HOLLAND as *Tony Lumpkin* was the best representative of the part we have seen on the American stage, imparting a lumpish breadth and jollity to the character which his predecessors have failed to convey. Two small parts, played excellently well by Mr. JOHN SEFTON and Mr. YOUNG, deserve honorable mention, simply because such parts are usually blemishes on the piece. The parts referred to are *Jeremy* and *Diggory*.

It is as pleasant as a New-Year's compliment to have the annual privilege of welcoming Mrs. HOEY back to the field where she first made her reputation, and in which she can so triumphantly sustain it. The part of *Miss Hardcastle*—dashed with comedy and picturesque imposture—is peculiarly adapted to the lady's powers. Mrs. VERNON, too, another favorite here, was all that could be desired as the vain old *Mrs. Hardcastle*, and Mrs. SLOAN—whom we welcome back with pleasure—gave us a gentle picture of the fair *Miss Neville*.

New dresses have been made, and scenery painted for this revival; both are good, but anent the latter we would remark that the interiors, with one exception, are too cold for anything less sanguinary than tragedy. Mr. ISHERWOOD'S best effort is in the last act—a stationary panorama of English scenery where one can learn a Hamlet at a glance.

To-night Mr. BROUGHAM'S comedy, "Playing with Fire," will be revived.

## GENERAL CITY NEWS.

DARING EXPLOITS OF TWO COLORED MEN.—Officer SLOWEY, of the Detective Police, yesterday arrested two colored men named JOHN and PETER WHITEHEAD. The former is about 18, and the latter 21 years of age. They state that they are brothers, and natives of New-Jersey. They are charged upon several complaints with larceny and burglary. Not long since Mr. MOSES TAYLOR, residing in Bergen, N. J., where he is the proprietor of a store, was robbed, one dark night, in a very mysterious manner. Some time in the evening he closed his place of business, took his tin box, which contained $75 in money, a knife and considerable other valuable property, and proceeded a short distance to his house. When he reached it, he placed the box on the steps while he felt in his pocket for a key to unlock the door. Upon stooping down for the box a moment after, he found, to his great surprise that it was gone. It was most unaccountable, and no information could be obtained as to the whereabouts of the guilty parties until yesterday, when they were arrested at the house of a Mrs. BROWN, in Mercer-street, in this City. A clue to the culprits was obtained in this way: Last Friday night the house of JOHN FARDON, also a resident of Bergen, was broken open, and an overcoat and other property, amounting in value to $40, was stolen therefrom. The same night a barn was entered in the neighborhood, a fire kindled therein, and a horse taken from the stable and rode as far as Hoboken, where it was released. These offences greatly alarmed the Bergen people, who sent immediately to the New-York Detective office. A description of the men enabled Officer SLOWEY to trace them to the house in Mercer-street where they were found. When PETER WHITEHEAD was searched, the knife belonging to Mr. TAYLOR, was found upon his person. They were both taken to Headquarters, where, after a good deal of quibbling, they finally confessed that they were the persons who stole Mr. TAYLOR'S box, and who shortly after broke into Mr. FARDON'S house. At a late hour yesterday they were sent over to New-Jersey, there to be dealt with according to law.

RINGING THE OLD YEAR OUT AND THE NEW YEAR IN.—To-night, as is the annual custom, Mr. JAMES E. AYLIFFE will ring the Old Year out and the New-Year in, on the bells of Trinity Church. At 11¾ o'clock the chimes will commence with the following:

Ringing the changes on eight bells.
"Hail Columbia."
"Yankee Doodle."
"Happy am I," (from the opera of "La Bayadere.")

An intermission will then take place to allow the hour of twelve to strike. As the last stroke dies away, the bells will again strike up with:

Ringing the changes on eight bells.
Airs from "The Child of the Regiment."
"Evening Bells."
"Columbia the Gem of the Ocean."
"Last Rose of Summer."
"Yankee Doodle."
"Home, sweet Home."

MIDNIGHT MEETING AT BARNUM'S MUSEUM.—A monster meeting was recently held in Exeter Hall London, to pray that peace may be preserved between England and America. That meeting sent a request to this country that we should also pray for the same object. In accordance therewith, the Christian Alliance have arranged for such a meeting at the lecture-room of Barnum's Museum, at 10½ o'clock this evening. Mr. B. has kindly given the use of the room for this purpose.

### The First Day of Skating this Season, in Central Park.

Yesterday, the first day of skating, this season was inaugurated at Central Park. At an early hour skaters of all sizes were seen flocking toward the Park. The "ball," much to their gratification, was up, and the lower pond was announced capable of bearing. Soon the skates were buckled on, and the skating season at Central Park may be said to have fully commenced. A few ladies were present, but only a very few who indulged in graceful gyrations on the ice. No doubt this was owing in a great measure to the boisterousness of the weather; on the first calm day, however, it is imagined they will turn out in as great a number as on previous years.

On Saturday no skating on the ponds in Central Park was allowed, as the ice was not considered sufficiently strong. Beekman's pond though, in Sixtieth-street, and the pond at One Hundred-and-Sixth-street were crowded with skaters. It is computed that between thirty and forty thousand skaters visited those places during the day. In order to acquaint the public, and let them know when the ice is in good condition at the Central Park and adjacent Ponds, the managers of the Sixth-avenue Railroad have decided upon the following signals:

If the ball is up, a white flag, with a red ball, will be flying at the end of the car, and a card placed in the window stating the fact.

If the ball is not up, but skating allowed, a white flag, on which is painted a red ball, with a white flag on the centre. A card will also be placed in the window stating the condition of the ice.

If skating be not allowed at the Park, but if good skating can be had at the adjacent ponds, a card will be placed in the window of the car stating where the ice can be found.

To-day, judging from the favorable indications of the weather up to a late hour last night, there is no doubt the ice in Central Park will be in excellent condition, and there is no doubt that a number of persons—of both sexes—will turn out to enjoy the healthy and favorite pastime of skating.

### Arrivals in the City.

Prince de Joinville, Duc de Charires, Comte de Paris, Capt. Morham and Dr. Leclerc, from Washington; Pelatiah Perit, of New-Haven, and Jno. F. Mines, Chaplain of the Second Maine Regiment, lately imprisoned at Richmond, are at the Brevoort House.

Hon. Chauncey Vibbard, of Albany; Lieut. Watmorgh, of the United States Navy; Judge Amasa J. Parker, of Albany; Dr. Halstead, of Massachusetts, and Lieut. Vannechout, Lieut. Riondel, and Lieut. Petersen, of the Norwegian Navy, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Col. Hazard, of Connecticut; Lieut.-Col. H. Day, of Massachusetts; Dewitt Clark, of Vermont; Mr. Henderson, of Jamaica; W. H. Cook, of Rhode Island, and the officers of the First Massachusetts Cavalry, are at the Astor House.

Hon. O. B. Matteson, of Utica; Hon. Henry Wilson of Massachusetts; G. McCall, of Glasgow; Geo. S. Stewart, of Philadelphia; George Merrick, of Cuba; E. P. Durant, of Albany; T. Magown, and G. B. Olcott, of Washington; and A. Godiliot, of Paris, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Hon. J. W. Mills, of Westchester, and Lieut.-Col. Beers and lady, of New-York, are at the Lafarge House.

Hon. C. K. Ingersoll, of New-Haven, and Rev. E. Harwood, of New-Haven, are at the Albemarle Hotel.

P. H. Watson, of Washington; Col. Bayard, of Washington; John Garrett, of the U. S. N., and C. B. March and family, of St. Louis, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

## BROOKLYN NEWS.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN—TAKING IN SAIL—A STAMPEDE.—A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held last evening, Alderman TAYLOR, of the Fourth Ward, in the Chair. Alderman STRONG offered a preamble and resolutions, in view of the condition of the country and the high rate of taxation in this city, urging upon the representatives of this city in the Legislature to ask for a repeal of all the improvement acts involving the issue of City Bonds, asking the Commissioners under these acts to stay all action and discharge all employes; appointing a Special Committee of five to inquire and report what legislation should be had to reduce and restrict expenses to within the limits of the most rigid economy and secure permanent prosperity, by limiting debt and taxation; pledging the Board to a system of retrenchment and reform in city expenditures, and to discourage all expenditures and actions whereby taxes and assessments may be unnecessarily incurred, &c., &c. The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the Chair appointed as the Special Committee called for, Aldermen Strong, Wallace, O'Keefe, Franks and Van Brunt. Some routine business was transacted, and several ineffectual attempts having been made to adjourn, Alderman STRONG moved that the Board go into an election for a Chairman *pro tem*. No sooner was the motion made than every Democratic Alderman seized his hat and coat and made a rush for the door, and the Board was compelled then to adjourn for want of a quorum. The secret of this movement was, that one or more Democratic Aldermen were absent, leaving the Republicans of the Board in the majority. The Board adjourned for one week.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A man named WILLIAM MILLER, fifty years of age, was instantly killed at the Atlantic Basin yesterday afternoon, by a hogshead of sugar falling upon him. He was engaged in loading the propeller *Firebrick* with sugar at the time of the accident. Coroner HORTON held an inquest, when a son of deceased, present at the time of the accident, took charge of the body.

GAS—East New-York was lighted by gas for the first time last night.

### The Volunteer Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS VOLUNTEER ENGINEER REGIMENT, Corner Chatham and Chambers-streets, NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 30, 1861.

*To the Editor of the New-York Times:*

Your statement that the three companies of the Volunteer Engineers that left by the *Vanderbilt*, on the 16th inst., were under command of Maj. BUTT, was correct. They were until placed aboard ship, when the command was transferred to Capt. H. L. SOUTHARD, of Company K, Capt. ATWOOD being suspended from duty.

S. C. EATON, Capt. Co. F, Vol. Engineer Regiment, at Camp Washington, L. I.

## ARE SOUTHERN PRIVATEERSMEN PIRATES?

**Letter of Judge Daly to Hon. Ira Harris.**

NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1861.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request, at our conversation in Washington, I will put in writing the reasons why the Southern privateersmen should be regarded as prisoners of war, and not as pirates.

Privateering is a lawful mode of warfare, except among those nations who, by treaty, stipulate that they will not, as between themselves, resort to it. Pirates are the general enemies of all mankind—*hostis humani generis*; but privateersmen act under and are subject to the authority of the nation or Power by whom they are commissioned. They enter into certain securities that they will respect the rights of neutrals; their vessel is liable to seizure and condemnation if they act illegally, and they wage war only against the Power with which the authority that commissioned them is at war. A privateer does no more than is done by a man-of-war, namely, seize the vessel of the enemy, the prize or booty being distributed as a reward among the captors. The only difference between them is, that the vessel of war is the property of the Government, manned and maintained by it, whilst the other is a private enterprise, undertaken for the same general purpose, and giving guarantees that it will be conducted according to the established usages of war. In short, one is a public, the other a private vessel-of-war, neither of which acquire any right to a prize taken until the lawfulness of the capture is declared by a competent Court, under whose direction the thing taken, is condemned and sold and the proceeds distributed in such proportion as the law considers equitable. The Government of the United States declined to become a party to the international treaty of Paris, in 1856, and therefore the whole people of the United States, as well those who are now maintaining the Government as those who are in rebellion against it, have never agreed to dispense with privateering. It is not our interest to do so. We are a maritime people, with a large extent of sea-coast, which, whilst it leaves us greatly exposed to attacks by sea, at the same time affords facilities that render privateering to us one of our most effective arms in warfare. This was the case in our contest with England in 1812, and should a war now grow out of the affair of the *Trent*, privateering would be indispensable, to enable us to cope with so formidable a Power as that of Great Britain.

A great deal has been written against this mode of warfare, but nations, like individuals, act upon the instinct of self-preservation, and avail themselves of the natural defences which grow out of their situation, and a system, therefore, which enables us to keep but a small navy in peace and improvise a large one in war, will never be relinquished, because nations who have everything to lose or little to gain by its continuance, desire that it should be generally abolished.

Being then a legitimate mode of making war, what is the difference between the Southern soldier who takes up arms against the Government of the United States on the land and the Southern privateersman who does the same upon the water? Practically there is none, and if one should be held and exchanged as a prisoner of war, the other is equally entitled to the privilege. The Court before which the crew of the *Jefferson Davis* were convicted as pirates, held that they could not be regarded as privateers, upon the ground that they were not acting under the authority of an independent State, with the recognized rights of sovereignty. This objection applies equally to the men-of-warsmen in the Southern fleets, and to every soldier in the Southern army, none of whom are acting under the authority of a recognized Government. The Constitution defines treason to be the levying of war against the United States and the giving of aid and comfort to its enemies. All of them are engaged in doing this, and although the Southern privateersman may fall specifically under the provisions of the act defining piracy, the guilt of the one is precisely the same as that of the other. The question then arises, as there is in point of fact no difference between them, is every seaman or soldier taken in arms against the Government to be hung as a traitor or pirate?

If the matter is to be left to the Courts, conviction and the sentence of death must follow in every instance. In the case of the *Jefferson Davis*, the Court said, that during civil war, in which hostilities are prosecuted on an extended scale, persons in arms against the established Government, captured by its naval and military forces, are often treated not as traitors or pirates, but according to the humane usages of war. They are detained as prisoners until exchanged or discharged on parole, or if surrendered to the civil authorities and convicted, they are reprieved or pardoned; but the Court said this was a matter with which courts and juries had nothing to do. That it was purely a question of governmental policy, depending upon the decision of the executive or legislative departments of the Government, and not upon its judicial organs.

If this view be correct the disposition of this matter rests exclusively with the Government, and its decision must be pronounced sooner or later, as every day increases the complication and difficulty growing out of the present state of things. Are the Courts to go on? Is the Government prepared to say that every man in arms against the United States, upon the land or upon the water, is to be tried and executed as a traitor or pirate? either upon the ground that it is right or upon the supposition that it will prove an effective means of suppressing this rebellion? That policy was tried by the Duke of ALVA, in the revolt of the seven provinces of the Netherlands, and 18,000 persons, by his orders, suffered death upon the scaffold; the result being a more desperate resistance, the sympathy of surrounding nations, and the ultimate independence of the Dutch.

Neither the Constitution of the United States nor the act against piracy were framed in view of any such state of things as that which now exists. The civil war now prevailing is, in its magnitude, beyond anything previously known in history. The revolting States hold possession of a large portion of the territory of the Union, embracing a great extent of seacoast and including some of our principal cities and harbors. They hold forcible possession of it by means of an army estimated at 300,000 men, and are practically exercising over it all the power and authority of Government. They claim to have separated from the United States, to have founded a Government of their own, and are in armed resistance to maintain it. To reduce them to obedience and to recover that of which they hold forcible possession, it has been necessary for us to resort to military means of more than corresponding magnitude, until the combatants on both sides have reached to the prodigious number of a million of men. The principal nations of Europe recognizing this state of things, have conceded to the rebellious States the rights of belligerents, a course of which we have no reason to complain, as we did precisely the same thing toward the States of South America in their revolt against the Government of Spain. It is natural that we should have hesitated to consider the Southern States in the light of belligerents before the rebellion had expanded to its present proportions, but now we cannot, if we would, shut our eyes to the fact, that war, and war upon a more extensive scale than usually takes place between contending nations, actually exists. It is now, and it will be continued to be, carried on upon both sides, by a resort to all the means and appliances known to modern warfare, and unless we are to fall back into the barbarism of the middle ages, we must observe in its conduct those human usages in the treatment and exchange of prisoners, which modern civilization has shown to be equally the dictates of humanity and of policy.

For every seaman that we have arrested as a pirate, they have incarcerated a Northern soldier, to be dealt with exactly as we do by the privateersman. We have convicted as pirates four of the crew of the *Jefferson Davis*, and there are others in New-York awaiting trial. Are these men to be executed? If they are, then by that act we deliberately consign to death a number of our own officers and soldiers, most of whom owe their captivity and present peril to the heroic courage with which they stood by their colors on a day of disastrous flight and panic.

If such a course is to be pursued, it will not be very encouraging for the soldier now in arms for the maintenance of the Union, to know that what may be asked of him is to fight upon one side, with the chance of being hanged upon the other; and in face of the enemy, with his line broken, instead of rallying again he may, in view of the possibility of a halter, consider it prudent to retire before the double danger.

If, on the other hand, we convict these men as criminals and pause there, then the crime of which we have declared them to be guilty is not followed by its necessary consequence, the proper punishment. There is no terror inspired and no check interposed by such a procedure, for the plainest man in the South knows that the motive which restrains us from going further is the fact that the execution of these men as pirates seals the doom of a corresponding number of our own people; that the account is exactly balanced; that, with ample means of retaliation, they have the power to prevent; or, if mutual blood is to be shed in this way, we and not they will have commenced it. By such a course nothing is effected, except to keep our own officers and soldiers in the cells of Southern prisons, subject to that mental torture produced by the uncertainty of their fate, which, with the majority of men, is more difficult to bear than the certainty of death itself, and oblige them to endure, in the ill-provided and badly conducted prisons in which they are confined, sufferings, the sickening details of which are constantly before us in their published letters to their freiends.

"I little thought," writes the gallant Col. COGSWELL, of the regular service, "when I faced the storm of bullets at Edwards' Ferry, and escaped a soldier's death upon the field, that it was only to be left by my country to die upon the gallows." And the nature of their sufferings will be understood when it is told that the noble-hearted and self-sacrificing Col. CORCORAN was handcuffed and placed in a solitary cell, with a chain attached to the floor, until the mental excitement produced by this ignominious treament, combining with a susceptible constitution and the infectious nature of the locality, brought on an attack of typhoid fever. Shall this state of things continue? Let us take counsel of our common sense. These men are treated as criminals because, while we give to the Southern soldier the rights of war, for numerous exchanges of soldiers have taken place, we convict the Southern mariner of a crime punishable with death. Is there any reason even upon the grounds of policy, for making this distinction? We have, by the blockade of the whole Southern coast, cut the privateersman off from bringing his prize into the ports of the South for adjudication, and the ports of all neutral nations being closed against him for such a purpose, he is deprived of the means of making lawful prize, and must eventually convert his vessel into a ship-of-war, or degenerate into a pirate, by unlawful acts which will make him amenable to the tribunal of every civilized nation. The comparative injury that may be done to our commerce by the few privateers which it will now be in the power of the rebellious States to maintain upon the ocean, is as nothing compared to the disastrous and lasting consequences to the whole nation, to its industry, its commerce and its future, that would grow out of making this war one of retaliatory vengeance. We have the fruitful experience of history to admonish us that in such acts are sown the seeds of the dissolution of nations and especially of republics. By according to the rebellious States the rights of belligerents, at least to the extent of exchanging prisoners, whether privateersmen, man-of-war's men, or soldiers, we do not concede to them the rights of sovereignty. There is a well-defined distinction between the two, recognized by the United States Court in the case of Rose *vs.* Himmley, 4 Cranch, 241. One may exist without the other, and by exchanging prisoners, therefore, we concede nothing and admit nothing, except what everybody knows, that actual war exists, and that, as a Christian people, we mean to carry it on according to the usages of civilized nations.

The existing embarrassment is easily overcome. All further prosecution can be stopped, and in respect to the privateersmen who have been convicted, the President, acting upon the suggestion of the Court that tried them, can, by the exercise of the pardoning power, relieve them from their position as criminals, and place them in that of prisoners of war.

In conclusion, we are not to forget that we are carrying on this war for the restoration of the Union, that every act of aggression not essential to military success will but separate more widely the two sections from each other, and increase the difficulty of cementing us again in one nationality. We are to remember that the people of the South, whose infirmity it has been to have very extravagant ideas of their own superiority, and whose contempt of the people of the North has been in proportion to their want of information respecting them, have been hurried into their present position by the professional politicians and large landed proprietors to whom they have hitherto been accustomed to confide the management of their public affairs; that though prone to commit outrageous acts when under the influence of excitement, they are upon the whole a kindly and affectionate people, and have, when not blinded by passion, a very keen perception of their own interests; that there are throughout the South, thousands of loyal hearts paralysed by excitement around them who still cling to the flag of their fathers and await the delivering stroke of our armies. Relying on our superior naval and military strength, and the settled determination of our people that this nation shall not be dismembered, we can, as the Swiss Cantons recently did in a similar crisis, put down this rebellion. That great duty imposes upon us all the exigencies of war. War when conducted in accordance with the strictest usages of humanity, is, as all who have shared in the recent battles know, a sufficiently bloody business, and if we are to add to its horrors by hanging up all who fall into our hands as traitors or pirates, we leave the South no alternative but resistance to the last extremity, and should we ultimately triumph, we would have entailed upon us, as the consequences of such a policy, the bitter inheritance of maintaining a Government by force over a people conquered, but not subdued.

Very truly yours, CHAS. P. DALY.

[Advertisement.]

A NEW HAT FOR "MERRY CHRISTMAS."—Visit KNOX'S and select your Hat for the holidays. He has a superb assortment of these attractive and fashionable fabrics, and a Knox Hat is universally conceded to be an evidence of taste on the part of the owner. Show your taste, your good sense, and your determination to economize, by becoming a customer of the hatter. KNOX'S establishment is at No. 212 Broadway, corner of Fulton-street.

### A Suggestion for New-Year's Day.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 30, 1861.

*To the Editor of the New-York Times:*

Thinking that it is the desire of the loyal citizens to aid and comfort our volunteers now at the seat of war, I would suggest to the ladies who intend keeping open house on New-Year's Day, the propriety of raising a fund for their (the volunteers) benefit. It could be done in a very simple manner, by each lady placing in the hall of the house where they live, a small box, so that each visitor, as he passes in or out, could deposit a sum of money, such as their circumstances will permit, for instance, a cent, or two cents, or more. I have no doubt that this will meet with the approbation of the New-Year's callers. Knowing that you are always ready to help any enterprise by which our volunteers may be comforted, I hope this will meet with your approval.

Respectfully,
A NEW-YEAR'S CALLER.

[Advertisement.]

FOLEY'S
CELEBRATED GOLD PENS,
Gold and Silver Pencil Cases,
New styles for Holiday Presents.
JOHN FOLEY, Manufacturer,
No. 163 Broadway.

[Advertisement.]

HATS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
BEEBE & Co.,
BROADWAY, 156
Have a complete assortment of Gentlemen's and Young Gents' Holiday Hats.

[Advertisement.]

"CENTRAL PARK SKATE EMPORIUM."—Skates from 25 cents to $25. Everything in the skating line (except ponds) to suit all ages, sexes, tastes and purses. Parlor skates. We make a specialty of skates. CONOVER & WALKER, No. 474 Broadway.

### MARRIED.

JOHNSON—STEVENS.—On Wednesday, Dec. 18, by Rev. Dr. Burr, GEORGE W. JOHNSON to Miss SUSAN STEVENS, both of this City.

ANDERSON—BURRALL.—In Lakeville, Conn., by Rev. S. F. Jarvis, Rector of St. John's Church, HENRY H. ANDERSON, of New-York, to SARAH B., daughter of Wm. P. Burrall, Esq., of Lakeville.

### DIED.

KERR.—In this City, on Monday, Dec. 30, MARY JANE, eldest daughter of the late William R. Kerr, of Cincinnati.

Her friends and relatives, and those of her brother-in-law, D. F. Curry, are invited to attend her funeral, from the Church of St. George the Martyr, in 44th-st., near the 5th-av., on Thursday, Jan. 2, at 10½ o'clock A. M.

☞ Louisville and Cincinnati papers please copy.

DOUGHTY.—In this City, on Sunday morning, Dec. 29, ARTHUR, infant son of Edward E. D. and Cornelia Doughty.

HUSBAND.—In this City, on Sunday, Dec. 29, after a short illness, Mrs. ADAH ANN HUSBAND, widow of the late Thomas C. Husband, of the Island of Jamaica, W. I., in the 72d year of her age.

The friends of her family are particularly invited to attend the funeral, from St. Peter's Church, 20th-st., on Tuesday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, without further notice.

WARNER.—In this City, on Sunday morning, Dec. 29 after a protracted illness, J. L. WARNER.

The relatives and friends of the family, and of his brother-in-law, Wm. A. Guest, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, at the Memorial Church, corner of Waverly-place and Hamnond-st., without further invitation, on Tuesday, 31st inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

ADAM.—In this City, on Saturday, Dec. 28, of scarlet fever, MARY EMMA, daughter of Rev. M. T. and Mary P. Adam, aged 8 years, 7 months and 8 days.

The friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend the funeral, this (Tuesday) morning, at 10 o'clock, from the residence of her parents, No. 60 West 27th-st.

McKINNAN.—In this City, on Sunday evening, Dec. 29, of convulsions and epileptical fever, Miss ELIZABETH MCKINNAN, a native of Scotland, aged 45 years.

The funeral will take place from her late residence, No. 313 9th-av., this day, (Tuesday,) the 31st inst., at 10 o'clock. The friends of the family are respectfully requested to attend, without further notice.

☞ Glasgow papers please copy.

WALKER.—In this City, on Monday, Dec. 30, Miss CHARLOTTE WALKER, youngest daughter of the late Abraham and Elizabeth Walker.

Notice of the funeral will be given in to-morrow's (Wednesday's) papers.

YOUNG.—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, Dec. 29, JULIA A. YOUNG.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of Edward M. Young, in